THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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A woman with her new-born child outside the maternity hospital in Mariupol, Ukraine that was damaged in Russian shelling | AFP

35 KILLED AS RUSSIA BOMBS MILITARY BASE

The attack on the Ukrainian military facility, just 25 km from Poland's border, hurt 135 people, Ukrainian officials said

War at NATO's doorstep

The training base near Yavoriv appears to be the westernmost target struck so far. Poland is a key transit route for arms destined for Ukraine. US warned Russia it will face a strong response if any NATO countries come under attack

India shifts mission

India has decided to temporarily relocate its embassy in Ukraine to Poland. The embassy was moved from Kyiv to Lviv earlier. The latest move comes as Russia has expanded attack to Ukraine's west

MODI HOLDS SECURITY REVIEW

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was briefed about the situation in Ukraine at meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security on Sunday. "The prime minister was also briefed on the latest developments in Ukraine, including the details of Operation Ganga to evacuate Indian nationals, along with some citizens of neighbouring countries, from Ukraine," an official statement said

US journalist shot dead

A US journalist was shot dead and another wounded on Sunday in Irpin, a frontline northwest suburb of Kyiv, AFP quoted medics as saying. They were reportedly shot while travelling in a car

More aid for Ukraine

US President Joe Biden authorised $200 million in additional military equipment to Ukraine. It comes as Russia warned it will target arms supplies to Ukraine | P9

26 lakh

PEOPLE HAVE FLED UKRAINE SO FAR

Over four million people could leave Ukraine, according to the United Nations. That figure is likely to be revised

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

Same old script, CWC keeps faith in Sonia

Several leaders want Rahul Gandhi to take over as party president

RICHA SHARMA @ New Delhi

Congress interim president Sonia Gandhi gestures to senior party leader Rahul Gandhi at the Congress Working Committee meeting on Sunday | PTI

CONGRESS president Sonia Gandhi will continue to lead the party till a new president is elected later this year. However, during the Congress Working Committee (CWC) meet on Sunday, she said the Gandhi family is ready to make any sacrifice for the future of the party.

During the four-and-half-hour meeting, Sonia said if the CWC feels that the family is responsible for the state of the party, "she will abide by the wisdom of the CWC".

"The CWC unanimously reaffirms its faith in the leadership of Sonia Gandhi and requests the Congress President to lead from the front, address the organisational weaknesses, effect necessary & comprehensive organisational changes in order to take on the political challenges," said General Secretary in charge of organisation KC Venugopal.

Former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi said the party needs to look at new strategies to counter the BJP as old strategies won't work. Sources said senior party leader and member of G23 Ghulam Nabi Azad called to fix responsibility for the party's poll debacle and Sonia agreed. He also talked about certain late decisions including leadership change in Punjab and the election management in Uttarakhand. Sonia replied she was the one shielding former Punjab CM Capt Amarinder Singh for long.

General Secretary in charge of UP, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said there was no organsiation in the state when she started, but the work done by her and the state unit will bear fruit.

The CWC agreed to hold a *Chintan Shivir* after the budget session of Parliament in April to brainstorm future strategies. "Every leader wants Rahul ji to lead the party but the election process has started and August 20 is the date for the presidential election," said media in charge RS Surjewala.

Meanwhile, the Congress said it would work with like-minded parties during the second half of the budget session starting on Monday to raise people-related issues of unemployment, inflation and evacuation of Indian students from Ukraine. P7

Yogi meets PM Modi ahead of govt formation

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath | PTI

DAYS after an emphatic win in the Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath met Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday. Adityanath, who had resigned on March 11 to pave way for constituting a new assembly, also met the BJP top brass including home minister Amit Shah, national chief JP Nadda, and national general secretary (organisation) BL Santhosh, ahead of government formation.

According to highly-placed sources, Adityanath discussed giving adequate representation to all the castes in the new cabinet. There were also indications on discussions about increasing the number of deputy CMs from two to three or four. The role of ex-deputy CM Keshav Maurya, a prominent OBC face of the party, who faced a shocking defeat in Sirathu by SP's Pallavi Patel, was also discussed.

Though the party's state leadership was tight-lipped on what transpired during Sunday's meetings, it is learnt that names like UP BJP chief Swatantra Dev Singh, former Uttarakhand governor and BJP vice-president Baby Rani Maurya and former law minister Brijesh Pathak were doing the rounds for prominent roles.

While Dev Singh is an important Kurmi leader and an MLC, Rani Maurya is a Jatav and won from Agra Rural. The party is believed to be planning to give responsibilities to new faces to inculcate fresh leadership. Prospects of Pankaj Singh, defence minister Rajnath Singh's son and Noida MLA, getting a ministerial post looks bright. The saffron brigade will keep 2024 Lok Sabha polls in mind before finalising the names.

BYPOLL: TMC TO FIELD FORMER UNION MINISTERS

Shatrughan Sinha Babul Supriyo

The Trinamool Congress on Sunday said it will field former Union ministers Shatrughan Sinha and Babul Supriyo in the upcoming bypolls. Sinha will contest for Asansol Lok Sabha seat and Supriyo for Ballygunge assembly seat

PAGE 8

CM RULES OUT POSSIBILITY OF EARLY ASSEMBLY POLLS IN STATE

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Sunday ruled out the possibility of early Assembly elections in the state. "It is just speculation and there has been no discussion about it at any level in the party," he said, responding to a question on early elections after BJP won Assembly polls in four of the five states.

There were talks of holding the state and Gujarat Assembly polls together in December. BJP National General Secretary CT Ravi too had said there was no need for early elections as it would not help either Karnataka or Gujarat.

Bommai said, "I can tell you categorically that no one from BJP will defect to other parties. On leaders from other parties joining BJP, just wait and watch."

He said the BJP State Executive meeting on March 30 and 31 will decide on the proposed state tour of party leaders and other issues. Former chief minister BS Yediyurappa had earlier said he and other party leaders will start the state tour after the ongoing legislative session ends on March 30.

On cabinet expansion, Bommai said he will visit New Delhi when he gets a call from the party high command to discuss it.

Daylong power cuts return, more so on weekends

BOSKY KHANNA @ Bengaluru

IT is just the beginning of summer and already, Bengaluru is experiencing power cuts stretching for an entire day, especially during weekends.

There is more pain to come as Bescom officials said that scheduled and unscheduled power cuts in different areas will continue for another six to eight months as they are racing against a deadline to shift all overhead cables underground before the onset of monsoon.

The power supply company is resorting to power cuts despite the state reporting surplus production of power. While the work continues during the week, the major part is taken up during weekends leading to power cuts from 10 am to 7 pm, they explained.

"It has been the third consecutive weekend where there have been power cuts. While Bescom announces the power cut till 5 pm, it continues till 7 pm or 8 pm. They say it is because of scheduled maintenance works," said agitated Pradeep K, a resident of Magadi Road. CONTINUED ON: P2

PUNEETH
TO GET DOCTORATE FROM MYSORE VARSITY

In recognition of late actor Puneeth Rajkumar's contributions in the field of cinema and philanthropy | P5

EXPRESS READ

B'luru flight diverted, but passenger dies

Bengaluru: An AirAsia India flight, carrying 169 passengers on board from Bengaluru to Kolkata on Sunday, had to be diverted to Bhubaneswar after a 33-year-old male passenger developed health issues. He was rushed to a hospital from the airport, but was declared brought dead | P3

Pant breaks Kapil's Test '50' record

Bengaluru: Wicketkeeper-batsman Rishabh Pant on Sunday broke Kapil Dev's 40-year-old record of the fastest Test fifty by an Indian on the second day of the Day/Night match against Sri Lanka here. Pant cruised to his 50 in 28 balls in the 42nd over of Indian second innings | P11

NATIONWIDE	MAR 12	MAR 13
Fresh cases	3,614	3,116
Recoveries	5,185	5,559
Deaths	89	47

KARNATAKA	MAR 12	MAR 13
Fresh cases	136	164
Recoveries	275	130
Deaths	2	0

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Chairman, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)
shall deliver the convocation address

Dr. M.R. Jayaram
Hon'ble Chancellor, MSRUAS
shall preside over the function

Venue: Gnanagangothri Campus,
New BEL Road, MSR Nagar, Bengaluru – 560 054.

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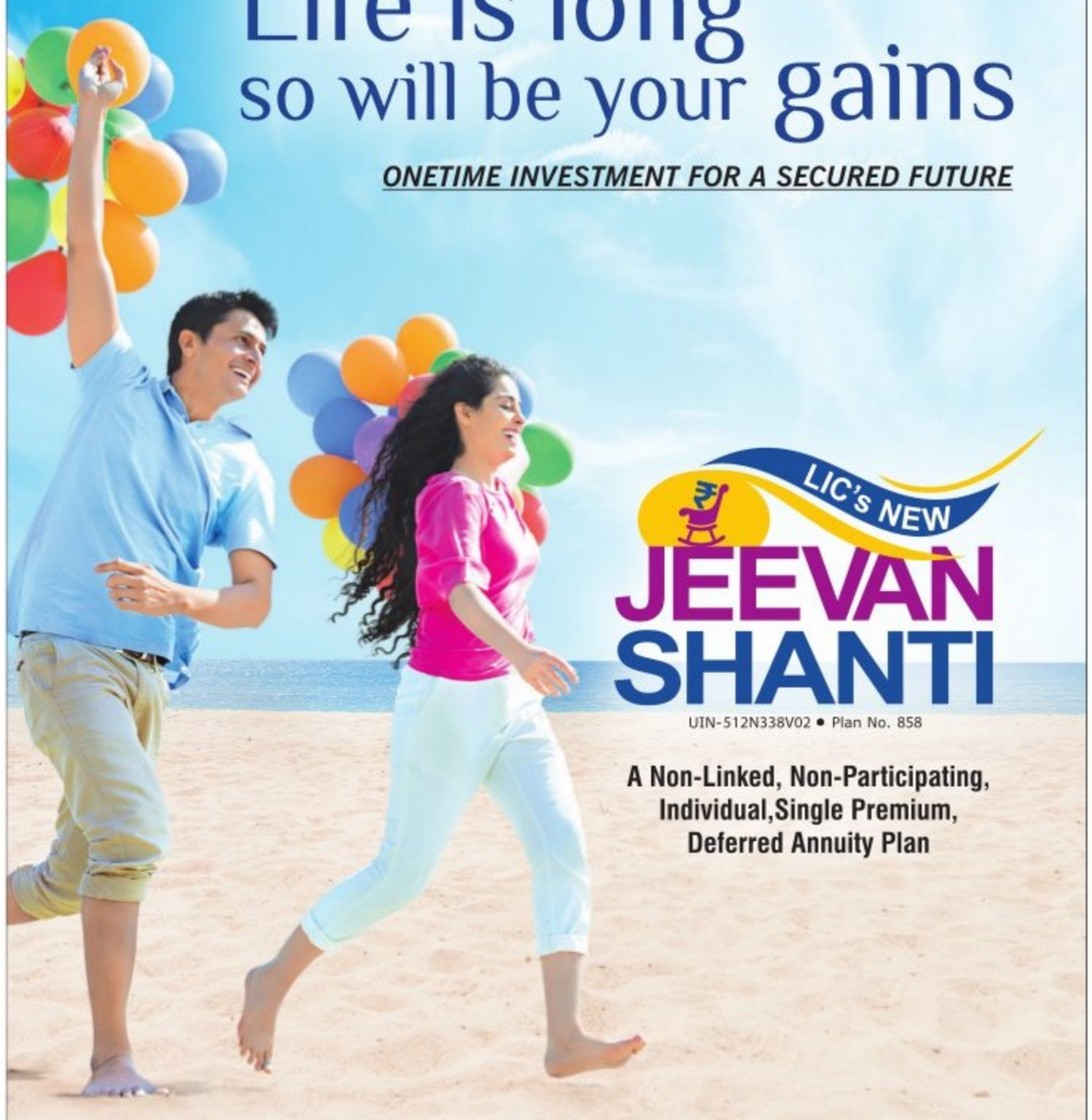

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ALMANAC TODAY
Monday: 14/03/2022 • Year: Plava • Ayana: Uttharayana • Ritu: Sishira • Masa: Phalguna • Paksha: Shukla • Tithi: Ekadasi 10.19 am • Nakshatra: Pushyami 8.40 pm • Moon in Simha Rashi • Rahukaala: 09:00 am to 10:30am • Gulikakala: 06:00 am to 07:30 am • Yamaganda: 01:49 pm to 03:26 pm

WEATHER
MIN 18°C | MAX 34°C
FORECAST: Mostly cloudy

Sunrise 6.28 am
Sunset 6.30 pm
Moonrise 3.13 am
Moonset 3.35 pm

Stone-throwing at Metro trains causes concern

No commuter injured so far; BMRCL pulls out trains following such incidents; each window glass costs `10,000

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

THE classy exteriors of Namma Metro trains take a beating on and off from stones thrown at them by miscreants. Though no passenger has so far got injured, thanks to the closed windows and doors and sturdiness, the fear of something untoward happening to its commuters is prompting the BMRCL to take precautionary steps.

The closed and protected Metro trains and stations and 24x7 security makes vandalism difficult. However, miscreants manage to escape it by throwing random stones on passing trains from outside the compound walls where tracks are laid, a senior Metro official said.

"Underground stations are safe from such vandalism as they are below residential localities. However, a few stations at the ground level do have the issue," he added.

Magadi Road, Chickpet, National College, City Railway

and Srirampura stations have recorded such incidents where the glass panes have cracked, an official said. Statistics were not available with BMRCL despite repeated requests. "We can probably say one stone throwing incident is recorded every month," he said.

Another official said that due to the double-glazed windows and doors provided across coaches, stones have not hit passengers. "Cracks develop on the exterior glass. It never impacts the second layer. There is vacuum between the two layers too. However, as a matter of passenger safety, we withdraw the train completely from service when it finishes that trip in case of any stone throwing incident. The specific train is put back into service only after the glass is fully replaced," he explained. It costs BMRCL nearly Rs 10,000 to replace a single damaged glass, he added.

Executive Director, Operations and Maintenance, AS Shankar said, "Wherever possible, we are putting up high barricades so that the stones thrown do not reach the trains. Surveillance in areas considered as dangerous spots too has been increased."

Citizens sit in protest at 17th Cross, Malleswaram, on Sunday, demanding that the road work be completed swuftly | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Malleswaram residents 'hit' the roads in protest

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE residents of Malleswaram staged a unique protest on the 17th Cross, on Sunday. They not just sat on the road, but also lay down on the caved-in parts of the ill-maintained stretches.

A few others also filled up the ditches with flowers and priests were called to offer prayers. The residents were aiming to draw the attention of politicians and officials of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to get the roads fixed.

Interestingly, in February, IT-BT Minister and Malleswaram MLA Dr CN Ashwath Narayan had pulled up BBMP engineers, asking them to repair the roads. Residents state that little or nothing has been done.

Stating that potholes and bad roads have been commonplace in the area, Anoop Iyenger, a resident, said, "Knowing that we will be holding a protest, the BBMP tried to fix some potholes. But work was done in a hurry and the roads have started to sink in. We took up 17th Cross as a symbolic road, but the situation is the same in the entire constituency."

The residents also questioned the BBMP engineers to show the work they claimed to have completed before the minister. They also demanded that the BBMP officials and minister undertake an inspection with them to see the actual condition of the roads.

Protests politicised, alleges MLA Ashwath Narayan

Malleswaram MLA **Dr CN Ashwath Narayan** hit back at protesters on Sunday, alleging that there is an ulterior motive behind the protests, which he claimed are politicised. Recently, demonstrations were staged against development work in the constituency, with residents saying that it has been causing them inconvenience. Responding to the protests, the MLA asked, "Those who want to protest could have done it by openly declaring their party name and by keeping the party flag along with them. But, how far is it right to carry out agitations in the name of citizens?" He lambasted the protesters, saying that it was inevitable that roads will be dug up in order to undertake development of the locality, however, measures are being taken to improve it. He cited the example of Sankey Tank, which he said is currently being developed owing to its importance as a green space for residents.

Notification on hiring guest teachers in 10 days

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

PRIMARY and Secondary Education Minister **B C Nagesh** has said that a notification on the appointment of 15,000 guest teachers will formally be released by the Education Department within the next 10 days.

The minister spoke to reporters on Saturday, saying that the notification would come in the next week. Previously the minister acknowledged that there was a severe shortage of government school teachers in the state, saying that qualifying examinations would take place in May. He said that the government was taking active measures to ensure that there is a preservation of quality of education in government schools, with 10,000 teachers to be appointed as guest teachers in the state and an additional 5,000 as educators for the Kalyana Karnataka region.

This also comes against the backdrop of the National Education Policy 2020, which is to be implemented in stages at the school level in the coming academic year. The minister added that measures are being taken currently to train 20,000 anganwadis to maintain the level of quality as dictated by the NEP.

On the issue of Second PUC examinations, which are due to be held in April and May, the minister said that students will not be allowed to retake the exams if they do not attend.

Referencing the hijab row, the minister said that all students must follow the High Court's order and follow dress code while writing the examinations. If students fail to follow this, they will not be allowed to rewrite the examinations.

Women-on-wheels take a midnight ride in Bengaluru for empowerment

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

IN a bid to promote equality and women's safety, several women from Bengaluru took to the streets for the Midnight Ride 2022 across the city.

In order to commemorate International Women's Day, 100 women rode from Marathahalli to Bannerghatta, then drove to Hebbal where they were greeted by IPS officer and managing director of the Karnataka Handicrafts Development Corporation D Roopa Moudgil. The bikers rode from different branches of the Rainbow Hospitals on Saturday evening, and were also greeted by actress Meghana Raj at the Bannerghatta branch.

"It is a pleasure to see so many women bikers at night. There are many households in our country where women are not allowed to step out of the house in the evening or without a male member accompanying them. When men have all the freedom, why should there be restrictions for women?" asked Roopa Moudgil, speaking on the initiative.

A group of women takes off on their motorcycles and scooters on a midnight ride in Bengaluru on Saturday | EXPRESS

The event is the first-of-its-kind initiative to have been undertaken, with the hospital using the theme 'Break the Bias' to outline issues of women's safety, especially at night. The Midnight Ride 2022 was initially flagged off by Dr Ramesh Kancharla, CMD of Rainbow Hospitals, who said, "This represents the true 'Naari Shakti'. We need to promote equality in society and this midnight bike ride has demonstrated that women can ride at any time on the streets and not be bound by time. If a man goes out in the evening or night, so can a woman."

BENGALUREANS IRKED BY FREQUENT POWER CUTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ANOTHER Bengalurean and a resident of Yeshwanthpur said the daylong power cut spoils the entire weekend. "Since we are a working couple with school-going children, all weekday work gets piled up for the weekend and power cuts hamper all those activities. With UPS we cannot use the washing machine and geyser. We have also stopped inviting guests home because of power cuts," said Seema L.

Power outages during weekends are being reported from Indiranagar, RR Nagar, Peenya, Mysuru Road, Sarjapur, Kanakapura, Majestic, Rajajinagar, HSR Layout, Attiguppe and many others.

"This has come at a time when the government has repeatedly stated that they have surplus power and assured people of no power cuts. It is just the onset of summer and we have not yet reached the peak demand. One only wonders if the state is saving power for drier and worse times ahead," speculated a power expert, working closely with the government.

According to the government, power generation from state units on Sunday was 4488 MW and the total power, including that sourced from the central grid, worked out to 9,046 MW. Bescom's actual load was 4,143 MW against the scheduled 3,741 MW. A senior Bescom official told *TNIE*, "So far, 80 per cent of works are completed. Our priority is to shift all overhead cables underground. Based on the availability of time, less traffic movement and load on the grid, area-wise works are being taken up. More stress is being laid during the weekends as offices are shut and load on the grid is less. At present, the state peak load is 14,000MW and 50 per cent of the load is in Bengaluru. Citizens will have to bear, as we do not want any untoward incidents during monsoon."

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

14th March: I should say a word about Jupiter's current creative location. A planetary position like this says a lot about the state of the world. In fact this looks like a fine moment for philosophical thought, for weighing up the odds, and for reaching critical decisions in line with what's best for everyone. At least, that's the theory.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
Much has been written about your professional hopes and ambitions over the last year or so. Now those of you climbing the career ladder may at last expect your aspirations to be satisfied. Save significant choices for later in the day, once your mind has cleared.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
Once again, the planetary alignments are extraordinarily favourable, and one area of your life which stands to benefit is your relationships with children. There may even be news of an addition to the family before long. Plus, you now need more space and comfort. In your dreams!

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
The stars are superb for financial transactions, including property deals, whether selling or buying. Mind you, the first thing you need to do is get your facts straight! Otherwise planetary potential will do you no good. Plus, it's your last day for keeping emotional secrets. The truth will be out next week.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
The general tone of the times is optimistic, although as always, there is a chance that your hopes could be raised too high. Make a point of pushing your schemes forward and try to persuade partners that your ideas are best. You're in a suspicious mood, but don't let that blind you to the truth.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
You may expect your hard work and efforts to be rewarded financially, perhaps through extra savings, perhaps as a result of increased earnings. Such good fortune may not take place today, but within six days you will have seen your efforts bear fruit.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
When the Sun encounters both vivacious Venus and magnificent Mars, the only response that is justified is one of awe at all that life has to offer. To fully appreciate just how well you are doing, you must raise your sights from routine drudgery and focus on the wonder of the world.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
Friends could soon be seeing important questions in a new light. It is amazing, is it not, how easy you find it to persuade people that you are right? You must, though, make an effort to please. Good news from a partner should be on the way, although you may have to wait two or three days.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
There's much happening that is difficult to explain. However, rather than flounder around in a sea of confusion, may I suggest that all vague and muddled questions are left on one side for the time being. Otherwise partners will think you've let them down.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
For the next six days your planets point to one conclusion: all your past professional and financial efforts and struggles are soon to be rewarded in such a manner as to show you that it was all worth while. Emotional ties though, will be particularly unreliable. You have been warned!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
You still have a great deal to gain from other people, though not necessarily in a material sense. You have much to learn, for example, in terms of having the courage of your convictions and the determination to stick to what you know to be absolutely right and proper.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
You're not alone in believing that financial affairs are essentially mysterious and impossible to explain. Yet, this week, you must have faith that even developments of which you may be completely unaware, are in your best interests. The stress level in close relationships is about to dip sharply.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
There are still one or two conflicts in the air, but while partners are likely to be irritable, you are capable of being quite short-tempered yourself. This week is the time for some of your famous tolerance. As passions rise, it may be up to you to keep the peace.

THE PHANTOM

WHO ARE YOU? IT'S MY BUSINESS TO KNOW.
MY DUTY!
YOUR PAPERS, WOMAN...
YOU DON'T KNOW ME, MASTER JAMPA?
WOMAN, YOU WILL ADDRESS ME PROPERLY! I AM CHIEF CONSTABLE JAMPA!
WHY DO YOU CALL ME THIS OTHER THING?
EXPLAIN YOURSELF!!

HI AND LOIS

BEETLE BAILEY

BLONDIE

ACCORDING TO MY BODY CLOCK, THIS IS THE PERFECT TIME FOR A NAP
HONEY, YOU DO KNOW IT'S ALMOST BEDTIME, DON'T YOU?
I KNOW
THIS IS JUST A DRESS REHEARSAL
UH-HUH

LOCKHORNS

"THEY RECOMMENDED I STOP DANCING WITH YOU."

DENNIS THE MENACE

"I STILL LIKE MY VERSION OF WHAT HAPPENED BETTER!"

SU DO KU

Hard: Test your number crunching skill with our unique puzzle

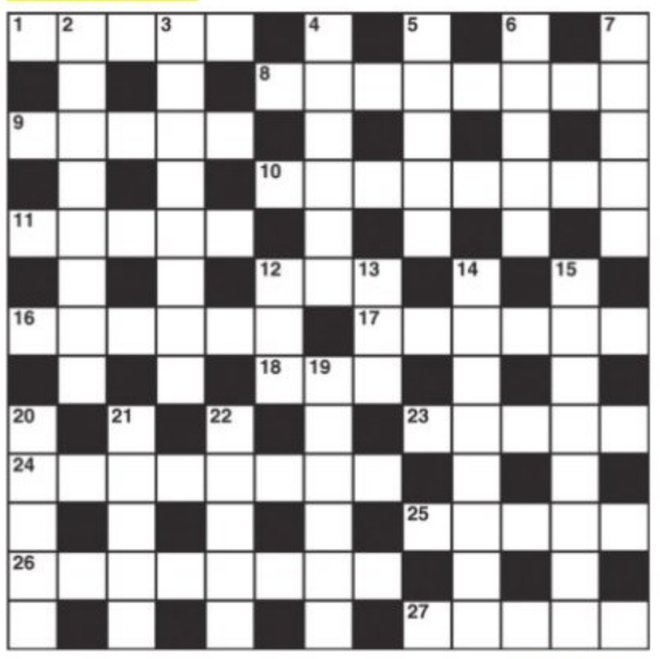
Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.

								2
1			4		8			5
9		7	5	2		8		
6	5		1				3	
	1				4		8	9
		4		9	1	2		6
8			6		2			7
2								

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

2	5	8	9	6	1	3	7	4
4	9	6	2	3	7	5	1	8
7	1	3	8	4	5	9	6	2
9	6	7	3	2	4	1	8	5
3	8	1	6	5	9	4	2	7
5	2	4	1	7	8	6	9	3
1	4	5	7	9	2	8	3	6
6	7	9	5	8	3	2	4	1
8	3	2	4	1	6	7	5	9

CROSS WORD



ACROSS
1 First half of June is cold and wet (5)
8 War that's breaking out in Panama? (5,3)
9 A warning that's sounded later perhaps (5)
10 Risk death with passion (8)
11 Join in a very loud number (5)
12 Old agreement from very early times (3)
16 The length an association will go to? (6)
17 He may make a score or interpret one (6)
18 Originally called back in the English lesson (3)
23 Only one of them can be right (5)
24 Standard means processed cheese (8)
25 The lighter side of chess (5)
26 Kept quiet (8)
27 Fish appeared to be off (5)

DOWN
2 Elated having been promoted (8)
3 Bearing the cost of transport (8)
4 Position in which a man takes notes (6)
5 Boat's the same even when capsized (5)
6 Part of the leg a bit higher than the knee (5)
7 A relation of a southern politician (5)
12 Desire money (3)
13 Copy out of the paper (3)
14 Amateur band man? (5,3)
15 A supporter of the arts (8)
19 Glass over title in the Spanish style (6)
20 Recreation wear (5)
21 Iron clasp (5)
22 Dish of cooked tripe (5)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Grass snake, 6 Blow, 10 Idler, 11 Generator, 12 Agitator, 13 Hindi, 15 Attache, 17 Dancing, 19 Threats, 21 Cadenza, 22 Pluck, 24 Lee shore, 27 Paper hats, 28 Rumba, 29 Rare, 30 Waitresses.

Down: 1 Grit, 2 Alligator, 3 Strut, 4 Nightie, 5 Kindred, 7 Latin, 8 Working day, 9 Orphaned, 14 Waste paper, 16 Crackers, 18 Ignoramus, 20 Sultana, 21 Cresset, 23 Upper, 25 Horse, 26 Pass.

JUMBLE

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NRHOO
PADLI
RXILEI
FOTRIP

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No one makes spears like you! How do you do it?
I only use locally-sourced flint and sharpen them for two days.
HIS CRAFTMANSHIP AND EXPERTISE AT MAKING SPEARS WAS A ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon

ANSWERS TOMORROW

SATURDAY'S **Jumbles:**
FURRY TITLE NUANCE PEWTER
ANSWER: Being able to go fishing with his granddaughter was a — "REEL" TREAT

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

03 BENGALURU | MONDAY 14.03.2022 | newindianexpress.com

Yelahanka MLA S R Vishwanath on Sunday inaugurated a free health checkup camp for the benefit of rural people. Around 100 people underwent regular checkups and got tested for an array of diseases. Organised by multi-speciality Altius Hospitals, the camp was held on Sunday morning at Dr Ambedkar Vidya Kendra in Marasandra, Doddaballapur.

TRACKING COVID-19

DURATION OF PANDEMIC
2 YEAR, 6 DAYS

CASES REPORTED
Today: **164** | Yesterday: **136**

TALLY
Today: **39,43,806**
Yesterday: **39,43,642**

DEATHS	DISCHARGES
Today: **0**	Today: **130**
Yesterday: **2**	Yesterday: **275**

ACTIVE CASES
Today: **2,656**
Yesterday: **2,622**

POSITIVITY RATE	MORTALITY RATE
Today: **6.06%**	Today: **1.01%**
Yesterday: **6.06%**	Yesterday: **1.01%**

RECOVERY RATE
Today: **98.91%**
Yesterday: **98.91%**

DISTRICT-WISE COVID CASES
LAST 24 HOURS

Bengaluru Urban	**112**
Bengaluru Rural	**2**
Bagalkot	2
Ballari	2
Belagavi	2
Bidar	0
Chamarajanagar	0
Chikkaballapur	1
Chikkamagaluru	1
Chitradurga	21
Dakshina Kannada	3
Davanagere	0
Dharwad	0
Gadag	0
Hassan	0
Haveri	0
Kalaburagi	3
Kodagu	0
Kolar	1
Koppal	1
Mandya	1
Mysuru	7
Raichur	0
Ramanagara	0
Shivamogga	0
Tumakuru	4
Udupi	0
Uttara Kannada	1
Vijayapura	0
Yadgir	0

'Duty' at Soudha, 'roll-call' in Upparpet

ASI suspended, used Upparpet police station for illegal business, to strike deals with offenders; senior officials mum

MG CHETAN @Bengaluru

AN Assistant Sub-Inspector of Police (ASI), who was transferred from Upparpet police station to Vidhana Soudha station but had not reported to work for 11 months, was suspended. It is alleged that he was 'working illegally' in Upparpet station, without the knowledge of senior officers, and indulged in corruption.

Srinivas Shetty, who worked at Upparpet station for several years, was transferred early last year to Vidhana Soudha police station. Though 11 months elapsed, he did not report to work there, but continued to work without proper orders in Upparpet station, sources said.

"He came to Upparpet station once a week or fortnight. He brought some persons involved in offences and let them off after collecting money, without filing FIRs. "He used the station as a place to carry out his illegal business and strike deals with offenders," a source said, adding that none, including senior officers, questioned him. Sources at Vidhana Soudha station said Shetty was retained by Upparpet police, who claimed they needed him to investigate some important unsolved cases. All this reportedly happened without proper authorisation from senior officers.

On Wednesday, CCB police raided a bar and restaurant in Gandhinagar, where a dance bar was being run illegally.

Incidentally, Shetty was placed under suspension following the incident.

"The whole episode has raised several questions on how police personnel at the station level function. The Vidhana Soudha police did not take the matter seriously, though an ASI didn't turn up for work for 11 months. Officers at Upparpet station did not bother to check his activities though there were allegations against him. When this is the case, the possibility of senior officers' involvement can't be ruled out," a source privy to the development said.

When TNIE contacted senior police officers, they were tight-lipped about the incident and refused to comment. DCP (Administration) Nisha James questioned, "What is there to report about this?"

Flight from city diverted to Odisha, passenger dies

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

AN AirAsia India flight, carrying 169 passengers from Bengaluru to Kolkata, had to be diverted to Bhubaneswar mid-way after a 33-year-old male passenger developed health issues onboard. He was rushed to a hospital after the flight reached the airport and was declared brought dead.

Flight No I5 2472 took off at 6.20 am from Bengaluru. Taimur Ali Khan, a native of Medinipur in West Bengal, had reportedly told the crew during the journey that he was unwell. The flight was immediately diverted to the Biju Patnaik International Airport. Doctors at Capital Hospital at Bhubaneshwar, where he was taken, pronounced him dead.

According to a source, Khan had come to Bengaluru for treatment for a health condition and was on his way to his hometown. An airline spokesperson in a statement said, "AirAsia India reported that a guest scheduled to travel from Bengaluru to Kolkata on board I5 2472 on Sunday, 13th March, reported unwell during the flight. Medical attention was provided by the airline crew and the flight was immediately diverted to Bhubaneswar. The guest was rushed to hospital and subsequently pronounced dead."

"AirAsia India offers condolences to the guest's family and is providing them with assistance," the statement added.

Of the total passengers who began their trip, only 164 passengers opted to take the flight from Bhubaneswar to Kolkata. It landed there by 10.16 am.

Another flight diverted to KIA

A Chennai to Jaipur AirAsia flight (15-1228) was diverted to Bengaluru on Saturday morning, due to a minor technical issue. A spokesperson said, "The aircraft will go through necessary inspections before being released for operations."

GOOD TIDINGS

Shoppers throng the famous Malleswaram Sampige Road Flower Market on Sunday. For the first time in two years, the city has been reporting less than 200 Covid-19 cases in the run up to Ugadi festival | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

COVID BYTES

Karnataka reports zero Covid-19 deaths

BENGALURU: In a significant milestone, Karnataka on Sunday reported zero Covid-19 fatalities. This is the first time in several months since the beginning of the pandemic in 2020 that the state has recorded zero deaths. The state saw its first Covid-19 death on March 10, 2020, in which a 76-year-old man in Kalaburagi died of the virus. Meanwhile, Covid-19 cases continued to drop across the state. The state recorded 164 fresh infections taking the total Covid-19 cases to 39,43,806, the health department said. Also, 130 people were discharged, taking the total number of recoveries to 39,01,093. Active cases stood at 2,656. There were zero infections in 14 districts.

IIT-B honours Munish Moudgil for Covid work

BOSKY KHANNA @ Bengaluru

THE Head of Karnataka State Covid-19 War Room, Munish Moudgil, was recently conferred with the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Indian Institute of Technology - Bombay for the work that went into setting up the war room and also for the optimum use of technology during the pandemic.

Earlier, the 1998 batch IAS officer, in January 2022, had received the E-Governance Award from the Government of India, for using technology in Covid-19 management and for the war room.

A senior official said it is rare for serving government officials to get an award on multiple platforms and especially an alumni award. "The nominations for the alumni award are not based on any applications made, but the names are chosen and nominated by the alumni association. The award is usually given among those in the same circle like in the field of technology and software, but this time it is to a serving IAS officer, who worked behind the scenes during the pandemic," the official added.

Moudgil had joined IIT-Bombay in 1991 and continued to stay there till he completed his M.Tech. His first posting was in Odisha in 1998. He was posted to Karnataka in 2005.

Moudgil told *The New Indian Express* that he had not applied for the award, but was nominated by the alumni and was informed that he was the recipient.

He said that he was conferred with the award on March 10, adding that he was recognised for using technology and for his work throughout his career, but more so over the last two years, during the pandemic.

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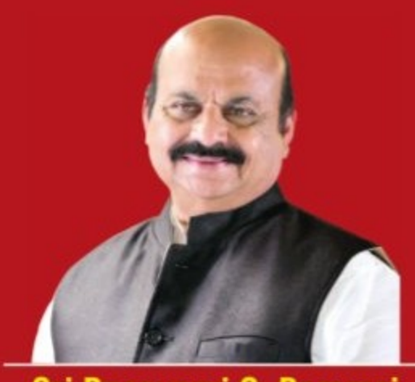
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department
Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
NREGA HABBA-2022

Sri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister


Sri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Inauguration
Sri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

NREGA Award Distribution
Sri K.S. Eshwarappa
Hon'ble Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister

Date: 14-03-2022, Time : 3.30 PM
Venue:
Banquet Hall Vidhana Soudha, Bangalore

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme

- 15.35 crore person days generated in current financial year
- ₹ 4343.95 crore wage paid to 62.43 lakh laborers
- 57,518 individual cattle sheds constructed
- 4.84 Lakhs water conservation works have been implemented under Jal Shakti Abhiyan
- 692 Kalyanis rejuvenated
- 75,333 acres of Horticultural area expansion

Hon'ble Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Sri K.S. Eshwarappa at the Nava Bharathada Nari programme held on the occasion of international women's day

Award distribution to best officers and Gram Panchayats for the effective implementation of MGNREGS

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Shilpa Nag I.A.S
Commissioner, Rural Development
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department

Uma Mahadevan I.A.S
Principal Secretary to Govt, Panchayat Raj
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department

L.K. Atheeq I.A.S
Additional Chief Secretary to Govt,
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department

To cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom - is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country

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1800-4258-666

Expressing displeasure against the state government's decision to construct a ropeway to Chamundi Hills, former mayor B L Bhyrappa staged a lone protest at the foothill on Sunday. Protesting at the entry point to the steps leading to the hills, Bhyrappa venting ire against supporters of the proposed project said that the ropeway will destroy the natural environment

STRAWS IN THE WIND

Goddess pantheon pales before FM

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, who has handled the sticky business of the country's finances for many years, faced a tough challenge during the foundation stone laying ceremony of the Cosmology Education and Research Training Centre (Cosmos) in Mysuru. There was no onerous task, just a heap of praise which descended on her, unannounced. While University of Mysore Vice-Chancellor Prof G Hemantha Kumar, who welcomed the gathering, called her the "epitome of Goddess Lakshmi", Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha went one step further, calling her not just the epitome of Goddess Lakshmi, but also that of Durga and Saraswathi! A visibly embarrassed FM sat silent, while the audience broke out in thunderous applause. Not surprising, in this age of bhakti...

JDS thumps chest, dreams of throne

Where there's a will, there's a way. And in politics, there are many ways. The Janata Dal (Secular) seems to strongly believe that it will storm to power in 2023, though its performance in the last few elections indicates otherwise. While the BJP is hoping to retain power, and the Congress is hoping to dislodge the BJP, the regional party with the least number of MLAs nurses the biggest hopes. During a heated debate in the assembly, when former CM BS Yediyurappa said the BJP will win 140 seats, Siddaramaiah hit back, saying his party knows the pulse of the people and will return to power. Not to be left behind, senior JDS leader Bandeppa Kashempur said his party won 40 seats in 2013 and 37 seats in 2018, and in 2023, the CM candidate will be from the JDS. Well, anything is possible in Karnataka politics!

Moily ignores Sonia?

Former Karnataka chief minister M Veerappa Moily's autobiography 'Nanna Bogaseya Aakasha (My Handful of Sky)' was released by former DyCM Dr G Parameshwara recently. Apparently, Parameshwara made all the politically right remarks about Moily, but skipped mentioning that he had made his debut as minister of state for sericulture in Moily's cabinet in 1992-94. As debutant Madhugiri MLA, he wouldn't have made it to the cabinet, if not for a push from the party high command. Moily, dipping into history, gave all credit to his debut as Karkala MLA to former CM late D Devaraj Urs, but failed to mention AICC president Sonia Gandhi. Considering that Moily had flirted with the G-23 led by former Union minister Ghulam Nabi Azad, that is seeking sweeping changes in the party organisation, it's understandable.

Jolle's bright idea: Bhajan trains

Minister for Muzarai, Wakf and Haj Shashikala Jolle said Karnataka will soon get a new train that will be reserved for pilgrimages, and the coach just behind the engine will be exclusively reserved for pilgrims chanting bhajans. The minister claimed that when she approached the Railway Minister with the plan, there was much gushing, and she was informed that no other politician had come up with such a bright idea. Every year, about 30,000 pilgrims from Karnataka visit Kashi, and the government plans to give Rs 5,000 as subsidy for each pilgrim, she said. Now, will this apply to pilgrimages of all religious hues, considering we are a declared secular republic?

BJP, CM hope to ride victory momentum

Win in the upcoming MLC elections could help the saffron party push pending bills in Legislative Council

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai addresses a BJP gathering in Bengaluru on Sunday

K SHIVA KUMAR @ Mysuru

WITH the BJP in an upbeat mood after winning elections in four states, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and the state party unit are likely to ride the momentum in the Legislative Council elections. The BJP's bypoll loss in Hangal, the home turf of CM Bommai, had raised many questions on his charisma to lead the party, and he will be keen to redeem his image in the upcoming election.

The party has announced candidates for three seats -- Arun Shahpur (North West Teachers' constituency), Hanumant Rudrappa Nirani (North West Graduates' constituency) and senior party functionary M V Ravishankar (South Graduates' constituency) -- for the elections to be held in June.

The party wants to take advantage of its victory, and has fielded a loyal party worker in South Graduates' constituency, that was previously won by the JDS. The BJP high command, that had come under criticism for its compromise to accommodate defectors in the ministry, has fielded party workers to send a strong message to the cadre.

Since elections are a litmus test for Bommai's leadership, the party needs to win two of three seats to ensure it gets a majority in the Legislative Council to call the shots and push through crucial bills, including the Anti-Conversion Bill passed in the Legislative Assembly.

A win gives Bommai an opportunity to prove to the top brass that he can lead the party from the front. It will also silence his detractors within the party, who are floating leadership change theories, and help him expedite implementation of budgetary programmes.

Party insiders feel that that no candidate has been announced for West Teachers' constituency, in the hope that Council Chairman and JDS leader Basavaraj Horatti will switch sides.

On the other hand, South Graduates' candidate Y V Ravishankar, who had lost by a narrow margin to JDS candidate K T Srikante Gowda, started his campaign with the blessing of prominent seers and party leaders. The BJP, which wants to spread saffron in Old Mysuru region -- considered the stronghold of the JDS and Congress -- hopes to wrest the seat that was once the stronghold of BJP veteran G Madhusudhan.

BJP president Srivasta said the party has enrolled more than 50,000 voters and will hold an election meeting, to win the seat. District Minister S T Somashekar, Ravishankar and other elected representatives will seek the cooperation of other aspirants as a victory in Old Mysuru will send a strong message to the state in an election year.

Joshi: BJP's win result of people's faith in PM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Hubballi

WITH the BJP having put an impressive show in four of the five states that went to elections recently, Union Minister Pralhad Joshi said it was the people's faith in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership and the BJP that helped the party emerge victorious.

Joshi told the media in Hubballi Airport that he was overwhelmed to see the support for Modi. "His (Modi's) four visits to the state led to the BJP's victory. The party organised 80,000 meetings in Uttarakhand," Joshi, who was party election in-charge for Uttarakhand, elaborated.

On the party's poor show in Punjab, Joshi said, "We tasted defeat because we were junior partners of the Shiromani Akali Dal. However, BJP secured 7 per cent vote share. We will focus on the next elections and start working from now itself."

When asked about Karnataka Congress president D K Shivakumar's visit to Goa ahead of the results, Joshi said he didn't understand why the former visited the coastal state. "Did Shivakumar go there to show his muscle power?" he quipped. He said that a discussion on Cabinet expansion will be taken after the end of the budget session of the state legislature. "The session ends on April 8. Until then, there won't be any discussion on Cabinet expansion," he added. Later, Joshi took part in a procession organised by BJP workers to celebrate the party's victory in the recent Assembly polls.

BJP supporters take out a rally to celebrate the party's recent victory in Assembly elections, in Hubballi on Sunday | D HEMANTH

Will fight 2023 polls without caste matrix: Bommai

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

KARNATAKA BJP leaders, including Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, here on Sunday asserted that they will have to build a narrative, based on the national leadership and shunning caste matrix, to win the next Assembly polls.

Bommai said the party will come back to power in 2023 on its own and win even those seats it lost in 2018. "In the four states where BJP won, people kept aside caste considerations and accepted the principles of our party, including Hindutva and nationalism. We have to adapt that strategy to set our agenda for the next Assembly polls in Karnataka. We have the strength of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's name," he said.

He was speaking after felicitating Union ministers Pralhad Joshi and Shobha Karandlaje, national general secretary CT Ravi and leader Mahesh Tenginakayi, who were in charge of elections in Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Goa and Manipur.

"The media analyses were based on caste equations, but the results taught a lesson to those who used caste during the polls. The four states where BJP won under the leadership of national party president JP Nadda, Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah are culturally different and the victory proved that people across the country have accepted the party ideology," he said.

Joshi, narrating how the party's defeat in Uttarakhand at the first instance was changed by the Modi-Shah leadership, said it could be done even in Karnataka. "We still have one year for the polls and it is challenging but possible as Bommai has presented a budget with representation to every district," he added.

CM in hurry to watch a movie

Bommai seemed to be in a hurry to watch the movie ' The Kashmir Files'. "That is the reason the felicitation is going at a faster pace," Joshi joked. Bommai replied that he is watching the movie on the orders of the party.

'The Kashmir Files' to be tax-free in K'taka

CM Bommai announced making the movie 'The Kashmir Files' tax free in Karnataka. "Kudos to @vivekagnihotri for #TheKashmirFiles.... To lend our support to the movie & encourage our people to watch it, we will make the movie tax-free in Karnataka," Bommai tweeted.

TOUGH TALK

Bommai must repeal three farm laws: Devanuru Mahadeva

MYSURU: Noted writer Devanuru Mahadeva on Sunday said that if Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai has any humanitarian considerations, he must repeal the three state farm laws in the interest of farmers. Taking part in a rally organised by farmers to draw the attention of the Sate Government to repeal the three laws near Dufferin Clock Tower here on Sunday, Mahadeva said that Bommai was a humble and down to earth person before becoming the CM. "But now his heart has become like a rock following the footsteps of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. If Bommai is humane, he needs to withdraw the three farm laws at least now," he added. The writer also claimed that Modi was not concerned over the deaths of farmers during the countrywide protests against the Centre's three farm laws. "Now, even the State Government is behaving the same way. There is an allegation that there is a Rs 40-50 crore scam behind the government bringing in the new farm laws. There is a need for a detailed probe," he added. ENS

Wary of snap polls, KPCC to appoint office-bearers

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @ Bengaluru

AFTER a humiliating defeat in the recent five state Assembly elections, the state Congress is in no mood to take any chances when it comes to the Assembly polls in Karnataka, especially if the state goes for snap polls.

The state Congress, which is going full throttle in its digital membership drive, is all set to appoint its office-bearers ahead of the Assembly polls.

"If the Bommai government decides to go for snap polls in Karnataka along with Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat in December this year, we should be prepared. We (Karnataka Congress) do not have full-time office-bearers. This could have an adverse effect. Hence, the party should at the earliest appoint office-bearers," a party functionary told TNIE.

> **If the Bommai government decides to go for snap polls in Karnataka along with Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat in December this year, we should be prepared. We (Karnataka Congress) do not have full-time office-bearers**
>
> A Congress functionary

Meanwhile, Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) DK Shivakumar is in New Delhi with a list of names for the post of presidents of district Congress committees (DCCs), KPCC secretaries, general secretaries and vice-presidents. The high command is expected to give its nod to the list on Monday. Shivakumar will return to Bengaluru on Tuesday and is likely to announce the names. Sources, however, said Shivakumar might delay making the announcement by a couple of days as the deadline for the digital membership drive is March 31.

Meanwhile, supporters of "original" Congress leaders, including former Kolar MP KH Muniyappa, who is also a Congress Working Committee (CWC) member, Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge, former CM M Veerappa Moily, former deputy CM Dr G Parameshwara and former minister MB Patil are expected to be made the presidents of their respective DCCs.

Yet to decide where to contest polls from: Siddu

ENS @Kolar

"THE people of Chamundeshwari rejected me in the last Assembly election. I have not yet decided where to contest from in the 2023 elections," said Congress Legislature Party leader Siddaramaiah here on Sunday.

"Leaders from eight to ten constituencies, including Kolar, Hunsur and Chamrajpet, have been asking me to contest from there. But I have not decided yet," he said.

On Congress MLC CM Ibrahim quitting Congress, Siddarmaiah said he is a good friend, and that Congress gave him all the positions that were commensurate with his stature. Congress made him the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, which was equivalent to a cabinet rank. But he quit as he was not made opposition leader of the Council, Siddaramaiah added.

On Congress faring poorly in five states, whose Assembly election results were announced recently, he said that ups and downs are common in a democracy. But the results of five states will not impact the poll outcome in Karnataka, he said.

Asked whether anyone from within Congress would work to defeat him, he said those are plans of the opposition and not of his party leaders. After the polls, Congress MLAs would choose the CLP leader, he added.

FORGOTTEN PAST

On Gopala Gowda's birth centenary, study centre remains incomplete

A view of the the incomplete Gopala Gowda study centre building in Shantaveri village of Tirthahalli taluk; (inset) Shantaveri Gopala Gowda | EXPRESS

RAMACHANDRA V GUNARI @Shivamogga

IT is the birth centenary of socialist leader Shantaveri Gopala Gowda this year, but the construction of a study centre and a foundation in his memory at Shantaveri village of Tirthahalli taluk remain incomplete as successive governments and the present dispensation too have failed to sanction funds.

The celebrations will be inaugurated by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on March 14.

Gopala Gowda, influenced by Ram Manohar Lohia, pioneered the socialist movement in the state, and mentored several leaders, including former chief minister JH Patel, S Bangarappa and SM Krisha. His contribution was significant in implementing the land reforms act in the state and Kagodu Satyagraha. Considered an honest socialist leader, he was elected to the Assembly in 1952, 1962 and 1967.

Though leaders over the years have paid lip service to Gopala Gowda's contributions to society, no leader has come forward to get the structures completed, said socialist leaders from Shivamogga district.

In 2007-08, then MLA and present Home Minister Araga Jnanendra had requested Malenadu Area Development Board Chairman Padmanabha Bhat to release Rs 7 lakh for the construction of Gopala Gowda Study Centre, but the structure has remained incomplete.

"No government or politician, including Kagodu Thimmappa, Kimmane Ratnakar and others, from Shivamogga district who were in power, failed to sanction funds to complete the study centre and the house, where there were plans to establish te Gopala Gowda Foundation, even 50 years after his demise," said followers of Gopala Gowda.

"As socialism has lost its relevance in present day politics, the issue is forgotten," said a senior socialist leader on condition of anonymity.

Bangarappa, during an event organised by the Kuvempu Pratishtana in Kuppalli, had expressed the need to establish a similar forum after Gopala Gowda, the followers said.

With the centenary celebrations, there is hope again that the government would sanction enough grants to complete the structures.

> **No government or politician, including Kagodu Thimmappa, Kimmane Ratnakar and others, from Shivamogga district who were in power, failed to sanction funds to complete the study centre and the house**
>
> A follower of Shantaveri Gopala Gowda

The Kerala police department has suspended a civil police officer, after photographs of him attending a booze party organised by history-sheeters this January emerged. Jihanil Hakkim, a senior civil police officer, had attended a party organised by a habitual offender Ayirooppara Kuttan.

SWR records 3,180 deaths on tracks in 3 yrs

Murders, accidents, suicides make up gory figures; use of mobiles, headphones blamed

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

RAILWAY tracks across South Western Railway (SWR) Zone are emerging as a major death zones with a total of 3,801 individuals found dead by Karnataka Railway Police in the past three calendar years. The trend only seems to be increasing, with 317 deaths being reported in 2022 up to March 10.

If the Shatabdi Express running over of a youngster at Tyakal station, 60 km from Bengaluru, last week sparked outrage among the public, these daily occurrences are more shocking.

The Unidentified Death Report (UDR) recorded by Government Railway Police (GRP) includes cases of trespass, individuals murdered on tracks, or murdered elsewhere but bodies thrown on the tracks, as well as accidental falls from trains, explained a senior government official. Another official said the numbers are quite high, bearing in mind the fact that many trains were not operational or ran with restricted occupancy in 2021 and 2020, due to the pandemic.

Max deaths in Bengaluru Div

Data shared by GRP reveals that Bengaluru Railway Division is the most dangerous section in SWR, with maximum deaths occurring here. Of 3,801 deaths reported from 2019 to 2021, the maximum of 531 deaths were recorded by Bengaluru Rural police station, 499 UDRs were recorded by Bengaluru City Railway Police station, while Cantonment Railway Police station recorded the third highest number with 348 deaths. Bengaluru City and Rural areas recorded 50 and 48 deaths respectively from January 1 till March 10.

ADGP, Railways, Bhaskar Rao told TNIE that the use of sophisticated noise cancellation headphones by youngsters was compounding the problem, as they are completely unaware of happenings around.

"We have put up posters highlighting the dangers of not being alert on the tracks. However, deaths continue to happen," he explained.

Many deaths occur when family members and friends who come to see off their loved ones dash out of moving trains at the last minute. "We need to put an end to the culture of sending off people up to the train, as in New York, Paris and other big cities. Another method would be to adopt technology which will ensure automatic closure of compartment doors," Rao suggested.

Mobile and selfie deaths

A total of 24 deaths have occurred on tracks in SWR in the past three years and up to February this year due to talking on mobiles or listening to music, and the desire to take selfies. Baiyappanahalli Railway Station seems to have set a different record with nine deaths – the maximum – occurring on its tracks on these counts. It is closely followed by Yesvantpur station with eight, of which five were recorded in 2021.

AFTER HIS FATHER, POSTHUMOUS HON. DOCTORATE FOR PUNEETH RAJKUMAR

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mysuru

RECOGNISING the contribution of late actor **Puneeth Rajkumar** in the field of cinema and philanthropy, the University of Mysore announced that the Kannada actor, who died due to a cardiac arrest in October last year, will be conferred posthumous honorary doctorate.

Fans are elated following the announcement ahead of the 'Power Star's' birthday on March 17.

Interestingly, the same university also conferred the honoris causa degree on his father almost 45 years ago in 1976, making both father and son recipient of the highest degree from a state university.

The then chancellor and governor Dr Umashankar Dikshit and vice-chancellor Dr DV Urs awarded Puneeth's father the doctorate for his contribution to Kannada language, land, art and culture, and music during a convocation held in an open-air theatre.

The university will be conferring the honoris causa on his son, posthumously, during

the 102nd convocation in the presence of distinguished gathering. Vice-chancellor, University of Mysore, G Hemantha Kumar said that his name was sent to the governor's office and was finalised along with two others. "We have already conveyed this to his widow Ashwini Puneeth Rajkumar and a formal invitation has been extended. She has agreed to attend the convocation," he said.

According to varsity officials, when they met the family members of Puneeth Rajkumar, to inform about this and invite them to convocation, they revealed that he was offered honorary doctorate by many universities when he was alive, but had silently rejected saying that he had not reached that level to receive an honorary doctorate.

DEER DEAR

Deer spotted at Nagarahole as the onset of summer forces animals to move out in search of water | KPN

Bajrang Dal leader's rash driving kills couple

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Tumakuru

Tumakuru District Bajrang Dal Convener Manju Bhargav, who was driving his car rashly, crashed into a couple riding a two-wheeler and killed them on the spot at Siddaganga Cross on Tumakuru Namadachilume-Devarayanadurga Forest Road on Saturday evening.

Bhargav, who had created a controversy in October 2021 claiming that a group of youth from another community had allegedly attacked him over a 'road rage' issue, sustained minor injuries and was admitted to a hospital in Bengaluru.

"He was at the wheel and has been booked under Section 304A for killing two people because of his rash and negligent driving," the police said.

The deceased couple – Narasimharaju (44), an LIC agent and farmer, and Nagarathna(40) – were returning to their residence at Tumakuru from their hometown of Irakasandra Colony on their motorbike when the accident occurred.

Mangled remains of Bajrang Dal leader's car that killed a couple

After crashing into the two-wheeler, Bhargav hit another van, injuring one person. Bhargav's friends rushed to the spot and prevented local residents from attacking him, the police said.

TRS MLC Gutha to head Council again

Hyderabad: TRS MLC Gutha Sukhender Reddy is all set to be elected unopposed as the chairman of Telangana Legislative Council. With no other legislator in the fray, his election as the chairman will be a mere formality on Monday. In the 40-member House, the ruling TRS party enjoys a strength of 38 MLCs, including two AIMIM members. After filing his papers, he thanked Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao for giving him an opportunity to serve as the chairman of the Council for the second time. He said that he would do his best to uphold the dignity of the House.

Kerala's new cases below 1k after 18 months

T'Puram: In a clear indication that the third wave is waning, Kerala reported less than 1,000 new Covid-19 cases after a gap of almost one and a half years. On Sunday, new cases stood at 885 with a test positivity rate of just above four per cent. Health minister Veena George warned, "We need to remain vigilant even if the cases have reduced. Precaution should be taken for some more time. The aim is to eradicate Covid." There are 8,846 active Covid-19 patients in the state and 866 of them are admitted in various hospitals. There were six recent deaths along with nine deaths previously unaccounted for, on Sunday. Total fatalities stood at 66,808. The third wave that began from January this year had peaked on January 25 with 55,475 cases.

CRIME PATROL

Miscreants loot Rs 50 lakh in valuables

Bengaluru: Unidentified miscreants broke into a house and made away with valuables worth around Rs 50 lakh. The incident took place at Classic Orchard Layout in Puttenahalli police station limits. The police suspect the role of a couple, who worked in the house, behind the incident. Police said Chandrashekhar, who is associated with a political party, and his family had gone to Dharmasthala and the incident came to light when they returned on Friday. The miscreants have decamped with gold, silver articles, and cash, totally worth around Rs 50 lakh. "A couple hailing from Nepal were working in the house. They are absconding after the incident, and hence, their role is suspected. We are looking for them," the Puttenahalli police added.

Man charred to death in car

Bengaluru: A 40-year-old man was found dead under mysterious circumstances as his charred body was found in his car on NICE Road in Rajarajeshwari Nagar police station limits, on Saturday night. The deceased has been identified as Darshan, a resident of Uttarahalli, who was working with a BPO. He is survived by his wife and a three-year-old daughter. Police said commuters on the NICE Road near Channsandra Bridge found a car parked by roadside up in flames and alerted the toll staff.

Diesel thief shot at by police

Benglauru: The Jigani police shot at a man who was allegedly stealing diesel from vehicles after he resisted arrest and attacked policemen. The accused Srinivas alias Raju hails from Ballari. On Sunday morning, police received information that a gang of four was stealing fuel from vehicles parked on KEB Road. A team rushed there to nab the accused, who tried to escape by attacking them. "While two managed to escape, Srinivas and Mallanagouda, attacked the police in a bid to escape," police added.

NCB seizes pseudoephedrine in metallic yarn

Bengaluru: Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) sleuths seized 1.9kg of pseudoephedrine destined for New Zealand from a courier centre, and arrested two persons, including a South African. An official release stated that NCB officials of Bengaluru zonal unit intercepted an outbound parcel at a courier centre in the city on Friday night. "On examination of the consignment, 50 spools of metallic yarn was found, each concealed with powdery contraband to the extent of 40 g (approx). The powder was found to be pseudoephedrine, a controlled substance under the NDPS Act. In all, 1.97kg of pseudoephedrine was seized from 50 spools," the release said.

Dog carries baby's head, case filed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Hyderabad

IT was a horrifying scene to watch a dog going around the lanes in Vanasthalipuram with the head of an infant in its mouth on Sunday.

Manchana Mahender, who was sitting in front of a milk shop near Vivekananda statue on Sahara Road, spotted the stray dog.

When the dog came near him and dropped the head, a terrified Mahender reported the incident to the police.

Soon, a team from from Vanasthalipuram arrived and asked the locals if they have seen the dog. ACP K Purushotham Reddy said: "It is possible that the infant may have died during a premature delivery and may have not been properly buried. The stray dog which smelled the body had probably bit the head off and carried it around."

He said that it is common practice for hospitals to dispose of the still-born babies or foetuses sometimes even without burying.

A case has been registered in Vanasthalipuram police station under IPC 318 under which anyone found guilty of getting rid of a body discreetly can face punishment.

CCTV footage in and around the area is being examined to identify the place from where the stray dog picked up the head.

This might reveal which hospital disposed of the body and if there is any foul play.

It is possible that the infant may have died during a premature delivery and may have not been properly buried. The stray dog which smelled the body had probably bit the head off and carried it around.

K Purushotham Reddy, ACP

Bird-watching begins in Madikeri on April 8

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

AFTER being deferred in January, the eighth edition of the Karnataka Bird Festival will be held in Madikeri from April 8-10, 2022.

The festival, organised by the Karnataka forest department and Karnataka Eco-Tourism Development Board, aims to draw attention of people to bird watching, spark interest among young wildlife enthusiasts, show people the bio-diversity of forests, and shift their focus from tiger-centric wildlife safari and tourism.

"Every year a different location, region, bio-diversity, and a different bird is focused upon to increase awareness and ensure better conservation measures. This year, the mascot is Baza bird," a forest department official said. Baza is a migratory bird from the eastern Himalayas, China and South East Asia. Forest officials of the region have reportedly sighted a couple of the birds now, in the onset of summer.

Kumar Pushkar, additional Principal Conservator of Forests and CEO of the Board told TNIE that the festival was postponed because of spike in Covid-19 cases. "We always wanted to host one is Kodagu because of its bio-diversity and the many species which can be sighted there. Baza was chosen because it is sighted in winters in this region. There will be around six to seven different trails, which the deputy conservator of forest is finalising. The event will also cover Madikeri city, and will be inaugurated by forests minister Umesh V Katti," he said. Experts from across the country will be brought to share their experience, knowledge.

We always wanted to host one is Kodagu because of its bio-diversity. Baza was chosen because it is sighted in winters in this region.

Kumar Pushkar, Addl Principal Forest Conservator

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EDITORIAL

To get carried away by a thought is the state of a sentient being. ... When utterly letting be, wakefulness is vividly present

Tulku Urgyen

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

CENTRE SHOULD CONSIDER CUTTING EXCISE DUTY ON FUEL

Brent crude prices retreating from $139 a barrel to below $110 should come as a sigh of relief for the government, which is in a quandary on whether to let the fuel prices go up or take a hit on revenue by maintaining the current prices. The government has not changed fuel prices after 4 November 2021, and since then the prices of Brent crude have surged 30% from $84 to $110. Though the Brent crude touched a high of $139, it came off its peak in a matter of four days and settled below $110.

While the US and UK have announced a ban on Russian oil and gas imports, most European countries are not playing ball with them as the issue of energy security outweighs other concerns. The surge in Covid cases in some parts of the world is also keeping global oil prices in check despite geopolitical uncertainties.

Given these realities and the fact that the government has seen robust tax revenue growth in the current financial year, it should not burden the common man with another fuel price hike. It should instead cut the excise duty to give relief to the public. The government had in the previous financial year collected ₹3.7 lakh crore in excise duty. It has already crossed ₹3 lakh crore in excise duty collection by January 2022. Even if the government effects an excise duty cut now in the next couple of days, it is still likely to cross ₹3.5 lakh crore.

It can do with a bit of a drop vis-a-vis last year as collections from other taxes have seen a phenomenal increase. An excise duty cut would also help reduce inflationary pressure in the economy, saving the RBI from embarrassment as the central bank has quite surprisingly underplayed inflation in the next financial year. As some experts opine, such a cut would absorb a fair chunk of the lagged adjustment required in fuel prices, reducing the inflationary impact of the spike in crude prices.

WHY TN NEEDS TO PROTECT IRULA CO-OP

Jai Bhim, a recent Tamil movie, showed how the Irulars, who historically lived in the Nilgiris, skillfully track down venomous snakes. The Tamil-speaking tribals are renowned for their snake-catching abilities. In 2017, two of their men were flown to Florida when the US authorities failed to curb the exploits of Burmese pythons at the Everglades swamp, threatening the existence of small mammals at the national park. The men waded through the largest subtropical wilderness in the world and caught some of the world's biggest snakes.

Back in Tamil Nadu, the Irula Snake Catchers' Industrial Co-operative Society Limited, a 44-year-old institution, is India's largest producer of snake venom. The society has 350 active members, all from the community. The society's snake farm is facing a big dilemma: there are no snakes, in the absence of government permits for catching them.

Every year, permission is given after examining various factors such as the reptile's population and the breeding season. In 2020–21, the forest department gave permission to capture only 5,000 snakes: 500 cobras, 1,000 kraits, 500 Russell's vipers, and 3,000 saw-scaled vipers. However, a government order was issued only on March 29, just two days before the fiscal ended. This year, the forest department gave temporary licences a few months ago to capture snakes, and so far, 2,203 snakes were caught for venom extraction. The process involves defreezing the venom and powdering it. The delay in issuing orders has forced several snake catchers to go for daily-wage jobs and ragpicking.

After this newspaper reported on the inordinate delay, the TN forest department moved quickly. An expert committee is being constituted, which will soon streamline the snake venom trade. The society being one of the few official suppliers of venom, several pharma companies and research institutes depend on the supply from TN. Delay in collection and supply of venom should not jeopardise production of anti-venom in India.

The verdict shows the massive popular anger against the Congress and Akali Dal-BJP combine. But the scale of the huge victory also shows that it is a positive vote

CHALLENGES AHEAD AFTER THE AAP TSUNAMI IN PUNJAB

ASHUTOSH KUMAR

Professor in the Department of Political Science, Panjab University

SOUMYADIP SINHA

The verdict in the Assembly election in Punjab has been unprecedented. The state has never witnessed a landslide like this in favour of any party both in terms of vote share and seats, even when there was one-party dominance in the Nehruvian era.

Contrary to the expectations about a fractured verdict in a multi-cornered contest, the verdict has been unanimous in favour of the AAP going by the number of seats it won. Though the AAP received 42.1% of the vote, the first-past-the-post electoral system has resulted in the party cornering a disproportionate 92 out of 117 seats in the state Assembly. Only the incumbent Congress could poll a somewhat respectable 22.98% of the votes while winning 18 seats, down from the 77 it had won in the last election. The electoral decline of the 100-year-old Akali Dal continued, with the party managing to win merely three seats as against 15 the last time, while garnering 18.38% of the votes against 24% in 2017.

The alliances the Akali Dal and the BJP entered into separately did not help them. The BSP contesting with Akali Dal could poll merely 1.77% votes, almost the same as in 2017 but it could win one seat; the last time it won was way back in the 1997 election. As for the BJP, due to the massive farmers' protest against the agriculture laws and also its inability to spread its social base while remaining in alliance with the Akali Dal from 1997 to 2020, it was never in the game. So the party winning two seats with 6.6% of votes can be considered normal. The party, electorally dominant at the national level, shall look forward to increase its support base, especially in 39 constituencies including 20 urban ones where the Hindu community forms the majority.

The AAP's exceptional performance can also be understood by looking back at the verdict in the last five Assembly elections in favour of the two parties that have held power in the state since 1997, the Akali Dal-BJP combine and Congress, and their vote shares. In another departure from earlier polls in terms of the electoral trend, the AAP's margins of victory have been huge. Earlier, the state used to see very close contests. In the last Assembly election, there were at least 34 seats where the margin between the winner and the loser was less than 2%.

However, winning by a landslide does not mean a smooth ride for the nascent party, with mostly inexperienced leaders pitted against past masters of state politics. Agreed, the verdict has essentially been reflective of the massive popular anger against the Congress and the Akali Dal-BJP combine, which have been blamed for the sorry state of affairs both in social, economic and administrative terms. However, the scale of the win across the three regions and also in most of the 34 reserved Assembly constituencies also shows it is a positive vote. Therefore, the win places a huge responsibility on the AAP leadership, which has to redeem its pledge to bring an end to drugs and also finish the illegal sand mining and transport business. It also needs to bring back the state economy on the rails, as the farming sector remains deep in a crisis and industries have been leaving rather than coming to the state. Governance is a big issue in Punjab as corruption has almost become institutionalised.

> The unprecedented win also places a huge responsibility on the AAP leadership. Punjab has a strong regional identity and undue interference by the Delhi-based leadership would prove disastrous, as was seen in 2017

Another issue that the AAP has to address is the need to widen the social basis of political power by empowering the Dalits who constitute one-third of the state's population. It has to be done not at the cost of counter-mobilisation of the dominant Jat Sikh community, who are land owning and equally strong numerically. Given its troubled past, the two-community borderland state needs to maintain communal peace. The last Assembly election had raised deep concern in this regard among the minority Hindu community against the AAP as the party had banked heavily upon the support of the Sikh diaspora, reportedly including some radical elements.

Further, the challenge would be to fulfil all the tall promises the party has made, like huge subsidies to the poor and also bringing about reforms in the health and education sectors. The party in the past also had raised the hopes of the masses looking for a winning alternative, but became afflicted with factionalism and desertion of its state leadership. One needs to wait this time as the onus would be on the untested state level leadership that now has power. Being the Punjabi Suba with strong regional identity, undue interference by the Delhi-based leadership would prove disastrous for the party, as was seen in the 2017 election too.

Unlike Delhi, Punjab is a full-fledged state and the party's government would enjoy the constitutional basis of power over the subjects mentioned in the seventh schedule. So it will not be able to complain about the Centre not allowing it to perform. If the AAP succeeds in bringing about a turnaround in the fortunes of what once used to be the leading state of India, the party can very well hope to reap electoral dividends in other regions of the country where it has already got a foothold.

(Views are personal)

AFTER UKRAINE, EUROPE IS EUROPEANS' BUSINESS

N SATHIYA MOORTHY

Distinguished Fellow & Head-Chennai Initiative, Observer Research Foundation

Barring further Russian attacks on Ukraine more devastating than what has already occurred, which may or may not trigger an equally nasty response from the latter's cheerleaders, the medium and long-term outcomes of the conflict is this: Europe, cutting across the ideological divide, has taken back Europe for Europeans, from the guardianship of the US. It has vowed in silence to sort out its differences or create a new detente that could hold without NATO. With this, Europe may have also taken back the world to itself as before the end of the Second World War and the commencement of the Cold War, whose end in turn saw geostrategic fulcrum shift towards Asia, centred on China, after lazing around Afghanistan and Iraq, but not as much on Syria.

Thus far at least, no one is talking seriously about a nuclear war in Europe. The West European restraint in not following up American words with their deeds in a Europe and a world that can do without even a large-scale conventional war helped. It is their unwillingness to have war on their ground nearly 75 years after guns went silent on the Continent—and by extension, the rest of the world—that may have saved both from graded destruction, a third time in a hundred years. In the post-colonial world, however, it is difficult for countries to get destroyed in other nations' wars unless sovereigns foolishly decide to join a war that may not be theirs, though they too cannot escape the humanitarian and economic fallouts.

The Ukraine war has exposed the limitations of NATO in real-war situations unlike the nuclear detente of the Cold War era. Independent of the issues involved and the destruction caused by a war that was avoidable, Russian President Vladimir Putin has exposed NATO's limitations and also Western Europe's overdependence on the 20th century American ally.

Indications are that the Ukraine war would end sooner than was anticipated at commencement, especially after President Volodymyr Zelenskyy publicly met with Putin's demand not to seek or obtain NATO membership and also recognise his nation's eastern provinces as 'independent' as Moscow had done before shooting off the first missile. But post-war readjustments in Europe are going to be time-consuming and complicated. Russia is going to dictate certain terms going beyond Ukraine, but how much of it would be political and military in content compared to the lifting of economic sanctions to pre-Georgia, pre-Crimea levels remains to be seen.

A greater problem will be for Western Europe. What will the European countries do with NATO and its bases after the current exposure of their inherent political limitations? There is then the larger question of Europe tackling and/or working with the US on a new format of their liking. That is not going to be easy, what with the UK continuing to back the US, whatever it is worth, and many erstwhile East European nations now feeling more threatened by Russia than before the commencement of the Ukraine war. How the US uses their predicament will be a contributing factor to NATO's continuance, if not relevance, but that may not bother Europe as much when it comes to reframing the outlook for the EU.

While the readjustment is going to happen, it is going to be a long-drawn-out process. It can be messy, and messier than the UK's Brexit. The chances are that Europe would not want Russia and Putin to feel more emboldened than already, but that would not hide ground realities that have been exposed since. The question is if the trust deficit that the US and Europe now face from Ukraine would spread to other smaller allies, both on the Continent and elsewhere—and how much of it would rub on each other, in terms of mutual consultations and confidence building, as much of the trust was lost when the US waged a non-productive war on Saddam Hussein's Iraq based on bogus claims of his possessing 'weapons of mass destruction' (WMD).

> Independent of the issues involved and the destruction caused by a war that was avoidable, Russian President Vladimir Putin has exposed NATO's limitations and also Western Europe's overdependence on the US

It will take time for India to assess the seriousness with which China has revived talks over the border, going beyond the military disengagement post-Galwan. That may have been borne out of Beijing's perception that an US ally stands exposed as much in Indian eyes as elsewhere and that New Delhi would stop competitive muscle-flexing, especially since the formation of the America-led Quad.

This also exposes inherent Indian weaknesses on the geopolitical and geostrategic fronts, where the world fears only the demonstrable strong and respects a traditional peacenik. Post-Independence, India started off as the latter through the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) for the global toothless, but lost its way in the Cold War maze. Unlike China, which sat through that unsettling period in global politics to expose its fangs only when ready, India assumed a post-Cold War presence first past the Indian Ocean and more recently in the Pacific as a part of the US-initiated Indo-Pacific, but has gone nowhere.

India is not yet in the position where its citizens want to see it. Only some believe it is already there, without justification. The country has the potential, capacities and capabilities to be there, all the same. Self-belief is one thing but believing in the unbelievable is another, where the world at least knows the truth. It was like this on a simple issue called 'Operation Ganga', where the government woke up late to evacuate the 18,000 Indian students who had been trapped in what was destined to be the Ukraine warzone—and yet made a song and dance of it, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi declaring that it was evidence of the nation's increasing global clout.

In worse times for political and economic stability, as in 1990, the government of the day evacuated 1,70,000 Indians stranded in what was to become the US bombing fields in the Kuwait-Iraq region after the latter had occupied the former—by fearing what needed fearing, and early. It was even more so when a lone woman envoy with her small team evacuated 15,000 Indians from a chaotic Libya (2011), where the sudden civil war ended in Gaddafi being lynched and his body being dragged through the streets—but with not many back home knowing about it in an era in which social media did not have this much reach, and also did not have motives beyond telling the truth and nothing but the truth.

(sathiyam54 @nsathiyamoorthy.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Befits Digital India

It's in the fitness of things and befitting Digital India that the *Public can now fill in and submit census data online* (Mar 13). Moreover, this would accelerate the process of collecting data for the Census, which was put on hold due to Covid. The only drawback could be the authenticity of the data given by the individuals.

K Nehru Patnaik, Visakhapatnam

Perils of Western culture

What is happening to our society? It looks like Western culture is creeping into our country, with easy access to everything online. We have a Kerala grandmother who takes her two grandchildren along while she hopes to chill it out in a lodge with a 'friend' half her age (*Grandmother of murdered kid held from T'puram*, Mar 13). One of the children gets killed by her lover because they had a tiff and the man wants to teach his girlfriend, who is his mother's age, a lesson. It looks like helpless children need protection from their own relatives, who are supposed to safeguard them.

Elizabeth Koshy, Pathanamthitta

Spurious secularism lost

This is with reference to the article *Yogi: The victory of communalism* (Mar 13). The Congress and some regional parties such as the Samajwadi Party and Rashtriya Janata Dal were winning elections with the help of Muslim votes and by dividing Hindus on caste basis. When the BJP is winning on the basis of development and nationalism, it is branded as communal. Before 2017, there was no law and order in UP, but this mafia raj in the state back then has been ignored.

Shreeram Paranjpe, Bengaluru

A vote for development

The author has said that in most parts of the world, mixing politics with religion is considered an unwholesome practice. But there exist more than 100 global political parties that espouse Christian values. No member of the minority communities was discriminated against in the implementation of any of the welfare schemes of the UP government. Yogi Adityanath received a second term because people have witnessed the state's development under his regime.

H Ramaseshan, Vellore

Tyrants in modern world

This is with reference to the article *Putin's clones* (Mar 13). I was shocked after reading this. Many in India do not know what is happening in ex-Soviet countries. It is unbelievable in this modern world that there are such tyrants ruling these nations. These appear to be the outcomes of a Communist mindset. The UN, a toothless world body, could not take any action against these countries. And further, superpowers such as Russia and China are supporting them.

Jayamani A, email

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Subramanian Swamy @Swamy39
Is it not obvious that in India's national interest Prime Minister Narendra Modi should offer India's mediation for peace between Russia and Ukraine?

DK Shivakumar @DKShivakumar
As I have said it earlier as well, Rahul Gandhi should take up the Congress presidency in a full time role immediately.

Mamata Banerjee @MamataOfficial
Anti-worker step exposes the crudely lopsided public policies of central establishment which espouses interests of big capital at expense of farmers.

Punjab will get honest CM: Kejriwal

Lauds voters for ushering in revolution by dumping those who had 'looted' the state for years

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

AAP's Punjab CM-elect Bhagwant Mann with party convenor Arvind Kejriwal at the roadshow in Amritsar on Sunday | PTI

PUNJAB will get an honest chief minister and any party minister or MLA found involved in wrongdoing will be sent to prison, AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal promised to the people of the state.

"'*Tussi kamaal kar dita*'. The whole world knew that Punjabis bring revolution but still couldn't believe that such an incredible *'inqilab'* could be brought. The entire world is discussing you," he told the crowds which gathered to celebrate the AAP's landslide electoral win.

On Sunday, Kejriwal and CM-designate Bhagwant Mann led a road show in Amritsar after paying obeisance at the Golden Temple, the Jallianwala Bagh memorial, the Durga Mandir and the Sri Ram Tirath Mandir.'

"The people made leaders like Sukhbir Singh Badal, Parkash Singh Badal, Navjot Singh Sidhu, Charanjit Singh Channi, Bikram Singh Majithia, Adesh Partap Singh Kairon, Manpreet Singh Badal and Rajinder Kaur Bhattal and defeated them. Only Punjabis could bring this change. It is a *'Bahot bada inqlab'* (major revolution). Nobody else could do. *'Aap logon ne jharu chala diya'*," said Kejriwal.

The AAP convener vouched the honesty of his 'younger brother' Mann and asserted that an honest government would come in place. ₹₹I am happy that after many years, Punjab has got an honest chief minister for the first time. ... If any AAP minister or MLA is found to be indulging in any wrongdoing, he will not be spared and will be put behind the bars."

Taking a dig at his political opponents for 'looting' the state, Kejriwal said that the loot would now be stopped. " There will be a fiercely honest government. Now every single penny of the government coffers will be spent on you, on the poor and on Punjab."

He also promised to deliver all the pre-poll promises even if some of them would take time to be delivered. The party had promised employment, education, health, free electricity, freedom from drug menace and agricultural reforms.

Without naming the Akali and Congress leaders, Mann said that the people ousted those who looted alternatively for the past 70 years by big margins. "You voted for yourself, for your children, elders. You voted for good farming and for good standard of living. The kind of record you made with 92 seats had never happened in the history of Punjab."

Mann said that the new government would strive to take governance to the doorsteps of people. "We will make efforts to provide all facilities to the people from the comfort of their homes. I want less and less people to visit Chandigarh to get their work done. The work will start from Day One," the AAP leader said.

> **There will be a fiercely honest government. Now every single penny of the government coffers will be spent on you, on the poor and on Punjab** — Arvind Kejriwal, AAP national convener

Former allies make beeline to realign with BJP in Manipur

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

ALL non-Congress political parties, including National People's Party (NPP), are in a race to either be in the coalition or associate with the BJP that won a thumping majority in Manipur.

Before and during the campaign, the NPP's relationship with the BJP turned sour. NPP chief Conrad Sangma is apparently trying to mend fences even after CM N Biren Singh was categorical that the NPP would not be a part of the government.

"We are in touch with the BJP's central leadership. How can they suddenly ignore us when we are a part of North East Democratic Alliance and NDA?" an NPP leader said.

By winning 32 of the 60 seats, the BJP is comfortably placed to form the government on its own. However, Singh had stated the BJP would align with "like-minded parties". While the names of the like-minded parties are not yet known, NPP and Naga People's Front (NPF) are the two key constituents of the outgoing government.

Immediately after the election results were declared, the NPF had committed its support to the BJP. The NPF had also come up with a letter of support with a copy addressed to Governor La Ganesan.

Similarly, the JD (U) has committed its support to the BJP "in the formation of the government."

POWER GAMES

SHAHID FARIDI

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EMBASSY WATCH

DELHI AWAITS NEW US AMBASSADOR AS ALLEGATIONS OF LIES AND MISCONDUCT FLY AROUND HIM

Eric Garcetti, US President Joe Biden's nominee as the next ambassador to India, had promised to "double down on efforts to strengthen India's capacity to secure its borders, defend its sovereignty, deter aggression". But his appointment seems to have run into rough weather. His name as the next man in New Delhi was announced late last year but he is yet to take over the new responsibility. Garcetti, serving as the Mayor of Los Angeles, is embroiled in a controversy for allegedly lying about a case of misconduct by his aide. Republican Senator **Charles (Chuck) Grassley** from Iowa, who is also a ranking member of the Senate's Committee on Judiciary, has said that his team is probing whether Garcetti lied to a US Congressional committee by claiming that he was not aware about sexual harassment and assault charges against his close aide and long-time political adviser Rick Jacobs. Jacobs has been accused of behaving inappropriately with men and women in and around Los Angeles City Hall. Grassley claims that he is in touch with some whistle-blowers and is in the process of ascertaining full facts of the case, including Garcetti's claim of being unaware of Jacob's alleged misconduct. Grassley has informed President Biden that he would oppose in Senate a unanimous consent request on Garcetti's nomination. He has also written to Republican Party leader in the Senate Mitch McConnel requesting to be notified before any unanimous consent request is agreed to regarding the nomination. "The United States owes it to the republic of India to send them a qualified ambassador that will represent the values of the United States...," Senator Grassley wrote to Senate minority leader McConnell to put the matter on hold. Garcetti's nomination needs to be approved by a majority of members in the Senate where a vote is yet to be scheduled.

NO MORE FREEBIES

GOVT TO STOP FREE RATION SUPPLY FROM MARCH 31

Free ration supply, started by the Central government during Covid pandemic to give relief to people hit by the disease and job loss, would be stopped on March 31. The scheme, called Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojna (PMGKAY), was launched during the second wave of Covid last year. Under this scheme, the Central government distributed lakhs of tonnes of foodgrain from the Food Corporation of India godowns across the country, benefitting more than one-third of the country's population. Though Covid subsided some time back and people had returned to work, the government decided in November last year to extend the scheme till March this year, some say with an eye on elections in five states. The explanation given unofficially for ending the scheme, however, is that Covid has ended.

RELIEF FOR CONSUMERS

NO STEEP HIKE IN DIESEL, PETROL PRICES IMMEDIATELY

The deregulated diesel and petrol prices would continue to be regulated by the government. Public sector oil companies have been bleeding due to skyrocketing crude prices following the Russian attack on Ukraine. But they have been asked to go slow on raising diesel and petrol prices. The prices were frozen four months back in the run up to elections in five states and were expected to rise now. Highly placed sources, however, say the government has asked the oil companies not to rush into doing that. They have been told to do it in a phased manner. Petrol was deregulated in 2010 and diesel deregulation was one of the first decisions of the Modi government in 2014. By deregulating oil prices, the government withdrew price control and allowed fuel prices to be linked with international market rates.

ANNUAL REPORT

Employment generation a must: Sangh

NEW DELHI: The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) has flagged the twin issues of unemployment and employment generation.

In its annual report on Saturday, the Sangh emphasised that the government and the business fraternity together should accord a top priority to employment generation the country.

It stated that the need for rehabilitation was felt on employment issue in the situation emerging out of the pandemic. Unemployment persists due to crisis in the field trade, industry and transport, the report said. "Government has tried and is making efforts to overcome the situation by introducing various economic plans to create employment, yet in such a vast country the challenge is also immense."

It claimed that the Swayamsevakas made efforts for the creation of small and easy jobs, skill enhancement and training. "However, there is still a great need for employment generation." *Rajesh Kr Thakur*

NEED TO END INTIMIDATION, DETENTION OF SCRIBES: PANEL

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

NEWS media in J&K, especially in the Kashmir Valley, is slowly being choked mainly because of the extensive curbs imposed by the administration, according to a Fact Finding Committee (FFC) of Press Council of India which visited the Union Territory in September to look into the charges of harassment of journalists.

The three-member panel also recommended ending intimidation and detention of journalists and setting up of a three-way Media Advisory Committee to encourage dialogue among stakeholders.

"At a broader level, because of the continuing conflict, the business of news media has been severely disrupted in the region and sources of advertising are slowly withering away. Journalists function with a high level of stress, and are constantly facing pressure both from the government agencies and police as well as militants. That they still manage to do their job in such a hostile environment, itself is commendable," observed the FFC report prepared by Prakash Dubey (convener and group editor, Daink Bhaskar), Gurbir Singh (The New Indian Express) and Dr Suman Gupta (Editor, Jan Morcha).

It stated that a common thread in many of the depositions and evidence was the constant harassment faced by journalists in the line of duty from security forces. "As per IG (Kashmir) Vijay Kumar, since 2016 till mid-October 2021, 49 cases have been registered against journalists. Among these, 8 journalists have been charged under UAPA, 17 have been registered as criminal intimidation, and 24 journalists have been booked for extortion and other crimes," states the report.

According to the report, normal lines of communication between administration and journalists were disrupted because of the former's suspicion that a large number of local scribes were sympathisers of militants' cause.

"This was admitted by Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, who told the FFC that many journalists were of 'anti-national' persuasion. He conceded that when he was first appointed, he used to encourage open press conferences, but now had gone back to a 'selective engagement' with preferred journalists," said the report.

The FFC recommended that the administration should establish some platforms for discussion so that there can be a dialogue between stakeholders, and that the mutual suspicion was slowly eased.

"The security establishment cannot label writing against government policies, or quoting a family or civilian sources in a story about excesses of the armed forces, or tweeting a point of view as 'fake news' or 'anti-national activity' and then arresting the journalist for sedition," the panel said, adding that the tendency to see all critical reporting and opinions as "anti-national" must stop'.

EXPRESS READ

Plea seeks SC help for medical students

NEW DELHI: A PIL has been filed in the Supreme Court seeking directions on the issue of admission and continuation of studies in the country by Indian medical students who were recently evacuated from war-hit Ukraine. The plea also sought directions to the Centre to provide a medical subject equivalency orientation programme for admitting them in the Indian curriculum. The petitioners said that their writ petition seeks to invoke the most salient fundamental right guaranteed under Article 21 — the protection of life and personal liberty.

Mallikarjun Kharge briefs the media about the party's decisions | PARVEEN NEGI

Promotions on pause in armed force civil service

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

THE officers belonging to the Armed Forces Headquarter Civil Service (AFHQCS) cadre are facing major stagnation in promotion even as all the posts of Joint Director and some of Deputy Director are lying unoccupied due to protracted court cases.

Normally, a section officer becomes Deputy Director in six years and then Joint Director and Director after tenures of five-year each.

"I had qualified the Civil Services Examination (CSE) in 2009 but still see no hope of first promotion despite serving 10+ years in the Ministry of Defence," said an officer.

Another officer from the batch of 2002, who is presently serving in the Under Secretary rank, said batch mates from other services/cadres were promoted multiple times.

Judgment is pending in the case involving the departmental promotions and Limited Departmental Competitive Exam candidates, said the first source. At present, there are around 300 officers awaiting closure of court cases for promotion.

While many other departments under the defence ministry itself are adhering to ad-hoc promotions during pendency of court cases, it is not happening with AFHQCS officers. "Not just a promotion problem, it's even more hurting as many officers have retired, losing out on status, salary and pension benefits," said the second officer.

Drama at Press Council meet; members claim govt has put it in deep freeze after last minute pullback

SHAHID FARIDI @ New Delhi

THE Press Council of India (PCI) witnessed high drama last week over the delay in appointment of a new chairman, with its members requisitioning a meeting to discuss the issue, and government-appointed secretary withdrawing permission for the meeting at the eleventh hour.

The PCI has been headless since Justice (retired) C K Prasad demitted office on November 29 last year. Though the date of expiry of his term was known well in advance, no steps were initiated to appoint a new chairman.

The PCI chairman is appointed by a three-member selection committee comprising the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the Chairman of Rajya Sabha and a member of the PCI chosen for the purpose by its members. The PCI members chose Prakash Dubey as their representative in the selection committee on October 26, while Justice Prasad was still in office.

Since then, Dubey and other members of PCI had tried to schedule a meeting of the selection committee with the Speaker and the Rajya Sabha Chairman. But the committee has not been able to meet in spite of several reminders by the PCI representative.

THE RESOLUTION SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD PUT THE PCI IN "DEEP FREEZE" AND THE WORK AT PCI HAD COME TO A STANDSTILL WITH 297 FRESH CASES/DISPUTES PENDING AND 47 PART HEARD/ADJOURNED CASES AWAITING FINAL DECISION

Press Council is a statutory authority created by an Act of Parliament and entrusted with quasi-judicial functions of maintaining freedom of Press and also adjudicating on disputes where Press coverage crosses the line. Its Chairman is not only the first among equals of the 26-member PCI, but is also its administrative head who sanctions financial transactions. In the absence of a Chairman, work at the PCI has come to a standstill.

Decrying the unprecedented situation where new members have been notified for PCI's 14th term but Chairman is not appointed, agitated members decided to requisition an extraordinary meeting to discuss the situation where for the first time since its inception, the unbroken tradition of appointing a retired Supreme Court judge as chairman was not observed.

The extraordinary meeting was called on March 8 to discuss the agenda "...non-appointment of the Chairman of the Press Council of India."

The time and agenda for the said meeting was intimated to the members by the PCI secretary. However, on the night of March 7, the secretary circulated a note among members saying "the notice for holding extra-ordinary meeting on 08.03.2022 at 11 AM at the council office, stands withdrawn."

Attempts by members to find out the reasons for cancellation did not succeed as they could not contact the secretary.

The members, therefore, went ahead and held the meeting as scheduled. G Sudhakar Nair, a member, was elected to chair the meeting. As per rules, 11 members are required to requisition a meeting. It was requisitioned and attended by 14 members and a resolution was passed and sent to the Minister for Information and Broadcasting, the I&B secretary, the Lok Sabha Speaker, the Rajya Sabha Chairman and PCI secretary Anupama Bhatnagar.

The resolution said that the government had put the PCI in "deep freeze" and the work at PCI had come to a standstill with 297 fresh cases/disputes pending and 47 part heard/adjourned cases awaiting final decision.

Cong to join allies for flagging people's issues in Parliament

NEW DELHI: THE Congress will work with the like-minded parties during the second half of the budget session starting Monday to raise people related issues of unemployment, inflation and evacuation of students in Ukraine.

A meeting of the Congress parliamentary strategy group was chaired by Congress chief Sonia Gandhi to discuss the party's floor strategy and issues of public importance to be raised during the session.

The meeting was attended by senior party leaders, including Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge, Deputy Leader of House in Rajya Sabha Anand Sharma, Congress chief whip in Rajya Sabha Jairam Ramesh, Congress chief whip in Lok Sabha K Suresh, and MPs Manickam Tagore and Manish Tewari.

During the meeting it was agreed upon that the Congress should work with the like-minded parties to raise people-oriented issues and hold talks with floor leaders of other opposition parties.

The second phase of the Budget session starts Monday and will run till April 8.

"We discussed issues to be raised during the session starting Monday. We will work in coordination with other like-minded parties to raise issues of public importance during the session," Kharge told reporters after the meeting.

"Among various issues to be raised during the session include evacuation and safety of Indian students in Ukraine, inflation, unemployment, labour matters, MSP for farmers as promised by the government. We discussed all these issues in the meeting," the senior Congress leader added. *ENS*

PETROL PUMP LOOTERS HELD

The Meghalaya Police have arrested four miscreants along with arms and ammunition from East Jaintia Hills district for their alleged involvement in looting petrol pumps across the state, an officer said

35 IVORY — TUSKS SEIZED FROM SMUGGLERS IN JAIPUR

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	36	22	Mumbai	36	27
Bhopal	37	21	Panaji	31	25
Jaipur	37	22	Patna	36	20
Amritsar	32	16	Lucknow	36	22
Chennai	35	25	Port Blair	32	26
Kolkata	34	21	Imphal	35	11
Srinagar	18	05	Chandigarh	38	20

Mamata banks on star power for bypolls

Shatrughan Sinha to enter the fray from Asansol LS seat previously held by Babul Supriyo, who quit as MP in 2021

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolkata

Shatrughan Sinha

Babul Supriyo

THE Trinamool Congress on Sunday announced names of former Union ministers Shatrughan Sinha and Babul Supriyo as its candidates for the by-poll in Asansol Lok Sabha and Ballygunge assembly seats respectively on April 12. Sinha had quit the BJP in 2019 and Supriyo in 2021.

"Happy to announce on behalf of the All India Trinamool Congress that Sri Shatrughan Sinha, former Union minister and famed actor, will be our candidate in Lok Sabha by-election from Asansol. Sri Babul Supriyo, former Union minister and noted singer, will be our candidate in Vidhansabha by-election from Ballygunge," TMC supremo and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee stated in a tweet.

The poll in Asansol was necessitated after Supriyo resigned as the constituency's MP October last year, a month after he had quit the BJP and joined the TMC. Ballygunge assembly seat fell vacant after TMC minister Subrata Mukherjee died of cardiac arrest in November last year.

The singer-turned-politician was the only sitting MPs among 18 BJP lawmakers elected in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls who defected to the TMC.

In July last year, Supriyo had announced that he had quit active politics after he was dropped as Union minister from PM Modi's cabinet.

Supriyo's political career was in question after he was not fielded in any of the four Assembly constituencies — Dinhata, Shantipur, Khardah and Gosaba — where by-elections were held on October 30 last year. The TMC had snatched two of the seats, Dinhata and Shantipur, whch were won by the BJP in the 2021 assembly elections.

"Supriyo kept quite since he joined the TMC. We were not sure what would be his political fate. Since the chief minister has announced his name as a candidate from Ballygunge, it seems, Supriyo is all set to begin his new active political innings in our party," said a TMC leader.

"She (Mamata) is desperate to wrest the Lok Sabha seat from the saffron camp. Aiming for victory in Asansol, which has considerable number of non-Bengali voters who are believed to be BJP's strong vote-bank, Mamata played a smart card by fielding Sinha," said a senior TMC leader.

Bihar NDA ally exit looms

Patna: The exist of Vikassheel Insaan Party (VIP) chief and animal and fisheries resources minister Mukesh Sahani from the ruling national democratic alliance (NDA) in Bihar seems to be imminent with the former's decision to contest the upcoming by-election to the Bochaha assembly seat. The BJP, a major ally of the NDA in Bihar, is not in a mood to relent and is set to field Baby Kumari as its candidates from the seat

Devendra Fadnavis addresses the media at his residence in Mumbai on Sunday | PTI

Move to 'frame' in phone tapping case: Fadnavis

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mumbai

A team of Mumbai's cyber crime wing on Sunday recorded the statement of Leader of Opposition (LoP) and BJP MLA Devendra Fadnavis for almost two hours at his residence in Mumbai in a case of illegal phone tapping and government officer transfers.

The former chief minister said, "A police team recorded my statement in the transfer, and posting case. I answered all questions. Maharashtra government had been brushing aside the case for the past six months. I am a whistleblower of this posting and transfer case. But I'm being questioned as if to make me an accused."

He said, "I submitted the documents regarding state's transfer case to the Union home secretary. I haven't shared the documents with the media." Earlier, the notice was issued to the BJP leader for violating the Official Secrets Act.

IPS officer Rashmi Shukla is accused of illegally tapping phones of political leaders and senior officials when she was chief of the state intelligence wing. Fadnavis had cited a letter purportedly written by her to then Maharashtra DGP about alleged corruption in transfers in the police department. It was alleged that the Rashmi Shukha illegally tapped the phones of Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) leaders.

As per probe, she sought permission on different names and tapped the different leader's phones. However, the letter mentioned details of intercepted phone calls, leading to the ire of the MVA government alleging that Shukla tapped phones without permission.

Maharashtra Home Minister Dilip Walse Patil took a dig at Fadnavis alleging that the BJP leader did not answer the questions sent to him by the police pertaining to the case therefore the police went to his residence to record his statement.

Shiv Sena's Sanjay Raut said when Central agencies noticed MVA leaders, the BJP said if they have not done anything then they should not be afraid.

Rane's sons booked for Pawar-Dawood remarks

The Azad Maidan police in Mumbai registered a case against Union minister Narayan Rane's sons, BJP MLA Nitesh Rane and Nilesh Rane, for connecting the name of NCP chief Sharad Pawar to underworld don Dawood Ibrahim, police said.

TERROR MODULE

Four Bangladeshi nationals arrested by ATS in Bhopal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhopal

AN alleged module of the Bangladeshi terror outfit Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) has been busted in Madhya Pradesh following swoop by state police's anti-terror squad (ATS) in Bhopal in Saturday-Sunday intervening night.

Four men, all Bangladeshi nationals, were arrested following raids by the ATS teams at a rented accommodation in the congested Aishbagh area of the state capital.

According to state police's official statement, the four men were part of a JMB plot to develop a remote-base/sleeper cell for carrying out anti-national activities in India, including MP in the future.

The four men have been identified as Fazhar Ali alias Mehmood (32), Mohd Aqeel alias Ahmad (24), Zahuruddin alias Ibrahim alias Milon Pathan alias Jauhar Ali (28) and Fazhar Jainul Abdin alias Akram Al Hasan alias Hussain.

Incriminating material, including Jihadi literature and electronic equipment have been seized from the house where the foursome was living since last 4 months. It has prima facie been established that the men were in the initial phases of radicalising local youths.

Gujarat's co-operative system a role model for India: Shah

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA @ Ahmedabad

"GUJARAT'S co-operative system is a role model for the country, with co-operative sugar mills being the best in the country. The cooperative sector has made invaluable contributions in providing equal development opportunities to the poor, farmers, women, and youth of the country," said Union Home and Co-operation Minister Amit Shah while addressing a conference on 'Sahakar Se Samrudhi' ('Prosperity through Co-operation') at Bajipura in Gujarat's Tapi on Sunday.

The cooperative sector will be at the forefront of fulfilling the PM Modi's dream of a self-reliant India and doubling the income of farmers, he said.

Amit Shah addresses the event led by Sumul Dairy in Surat on Sunday | PTI

In Bajipura, the Surat District Co-operative Milk Producers Union Ltd (Sumul Dairy) is organising the event under the chairmanship of the minister.

Shah inaugurated various projects under the 'Sahi Poshan, Desh Roshan' campaign, in collaboration with the state government and Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation Union.

Shah, who is the country's first co-operation minister, further said that the seeds of village upliftment were sown by co-operative leaders including Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Tribhuvandas Patel, Bhaikaka, Vaikunth Mehta, was turned into a huge tree today.

Appreciating the co-operative structure of south Gujarat – famously touted as a centre of co-operative activities – he said that the journey of Sumul Dairy, which started with a capacity of 275 litres of milk, today has reached 2.5 lakh members of 1,200 milk societies.

J&K ELECTION

Spike in attacks on panchayat leaders feared

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

AT least 24 elected panchayat members have been killed in the Valley in a decade and whenever an election process gets under way in Jammu and Kashmir, said J&K Panchayat Conference chairman Mohammad Shafiq Mir.

Talking to this newspaper, Mir said the panchs and sarpanchs are being targeted and that they have been requesting the administration to provide security to the elected members since a decade. "Between 2012 and 2022, 24 panchayat members including panchs and sarpanchs have been killed by militants in J&K," he said.

Three elected panchayat members – two sarpanchs and one panch – were killed by militants in Kashmir this month only. Of them, a sarpanch and panch were killed in two separate incidents in Kulgam in south Kashmir and another sarpanch was shot dead by militants at his house in Srinagar.

"Militants feel the panchs and sarpanchs carry out political and democratic activities which is why they are being targeted. They are easy targets as they don't have any security. Now that polls in J&K are likely to be held in the next 5 months, the killings have taken place," he said.

Punjab, Guj now focus of Pak terror agents; PoK launchpad count drops

SANA SHAKIL @ New Delhi

WHILE the insurgency along the Line of Control (LoC) from terror launchpads on PoK seems to have somewhat reduced, according to the latest reports received by the intelligence bureau from top sources, Pakistan operatives are believed to be planning several operations in Gujarat's Porbandar port, besides planning infiltration attempt through Punjab's Fazilka sector.

It is being learnt that Pakistan's Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) is actively trying to collect information and pictures of fuel shortage facility near Indian Coast Guard jetty in Porbandar, a top intelligence official said, requesting anonymity. According to sources, ISI has also been attempting to gather information about places where cotton bales are stored "with a view to cause arson".

On March 9, this newspaper had reported about the decrease in the number of terrorists stationed across the border in Pakistan occupied Kashmir, ready to be pushed in India's Jammu and Kashmir. Sources in the security establishment said that improved coordination among security agencies and defence forces in J&K has made infiltration extremely difficult for terrorists. It is being suspected that terrorists from Pakistan are actively looking at major attempts of infiltration to India through border areas in Punjab. Security agencies are prepared to nullify all kinds of infiltration attempts, said a senior security official.

In December last year, the Coast Guard and Gujarat ATS seized heroin worth around ₹400 crore after apprehending a Pakistani boat off the Gujarat coast. Six crew members were aboard the boat. In November, the ATS had seized a heroin consignment worth about ₹600 crore from an under-construction house in Gujarat's Morbi.

'Better agency-force collab thwarting infiltrators'

Sources in the security establishment said that improved coordination among security agencies and defence forces in J&K has made infiltration extremely difficult for terrorists. It is being suspected that terrorists from Pakistan are actively looking at major attempts of infiltration to India through border areas, said a senior security official

EXPRESS READ

Tribal girl molested in full public view in MP

Bhopal: An unidentified young tribal girl was allegedly sexually harassed by a group of young tribal men in full public view during the ongoing Bhagoria festival in Bhilala tribe-dominated Alirajpur district. Five men, including three men involved in the shocking act and two others who filmed it before uploading it on social media platforms, have been arrested by Alirajpur district police and the hunt is on to nab three to four others. The shocking incident which happened on Friday, came to light after its video went viral.

KASHI'S NEW ATTRACTION

A sculpture at the Khidkiya Ghat in Varanasi, which is undergoing renovation work on the banks of river Ganga, on Sunday | PTI

More couples seeking sexologist help post-Covid

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

THE number of Indian couples seeking help from sexologists has gone up post-Covid and in most cases, women are taking the initiative. The stress of getting infected with coronavirus forced many couples to stay separately to keep their families safe. At the same time, some found the forced separation punishing, leading to tensions and quarrels and impacting their sexual lives.

According to Mumbai-based Dr Prakash Kothari, one of the best-known sexologists in India, "Many couples were forced to stay together at home and work from home due to Covid, which led to frequent fights. It also made the woman partner uncomfortable, leading to frustration and reduced sexual desire. The constant monotony and bickering made things worse for them."

Dr Kothari said more women came forward to sort out their sexual lives as women in India take their marriage seriously. "They have realised that sexual right is their basic right and it needs to be respected." He said many women got in touch with him to solve their problems and dragged their husbands along.

Dr Padmini Prasad, a sexologist in Bengaluru, who saw many couples seeking counselling post-pandemic, said, "The impact of Covid was seen on many men. They reported erectile dysfunction and premature ejaculation, and this impacted their sex lives," she said.

Dr Sanjay Kumavat, consultant psychiatrist and sexologist, Fortis Hospital, Mulund, Mumbai, said many women sought counselling from him about their husband's reluctance to lovemaking due to burnout.

"I saw many corporate people who came to me about their sexual problems and low libido. They kept on working from morning to night, without even weekend breaks, to meet deadlines. This impacted their sexual lives." He said in the initial days, the fear of Covid forced many couples to stay away from each other which later affected their sexual lives.

Fear of infection forced many to stay seperated

The stress of getting infected with coronavirus forced many couples to stay separately to keep their families safe. At the same time, some found the forced separation punishing, leading to tensions and quarrels and impacting their sexual lives

20,000 strays sterilised; fresh canine census soon

The city municipal corporation will carry out a fresh census of stray dogs. The civic body claimed to have sterilised around 20,000 dogs between 2015 – when sterilisation first started in the city – and August last year. The tenure of the current sterilisation work, outsourced to an agency, has come to an end and the agency is on an extension till a new one is hired. In the last survey conducted in 2018 by the department of animal husbandry, the number of stray dogs was pegged at 12,920. Last year, the sterilisation programme of the corporation drew flak in a report by the Animal Welfare Board of India.

CHANDIGARH DIARY

HARPREET BAJWA
Our correspondent in Chandigarh
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Report okayed, survey soon for tri-city mobility plan

The Chandigarh administration has approved the inception report by Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES) on the comprehensive mobility plan for the tri-city (Chandigarh-Mohali and Panchkula). Authorities have also allowed RITES to start a comprehensive traffic and travel survey. By May end RITES will submit its interim report based on this survey. The representatives of RITES submitted a presentation of inception report which consisted of study progress, objectives, methodology, transport scenario, primary surveys and their proposed locations, survey data analysis and its inferences. In August last year administration had decided to go for a fresh mobility plan for mass rapid transport system (MRTS) as the RITES had conveyed the 2009 plan could not be updated.

Pay dues or get evicted: 11k flat allottees told

Notices have been issued to around 11,000 allottees of small flats – under the Affordable Rental Housing Scheme (ARHC) of Chandigarh Housing Board (CHB) – to clear their pending rent which mounted to ₹40 crore to avoid eviction. The cancellation proceedings would be initiated against the defaulters if they failed to clear their dues within fifteen days. The occupants of small flats in eight rehabilitation colonies have failed to pay rent dues. The CHB had time and again sent recovery notices to the defaulters. In 2019, the CHB had cancelled the allotment of nearly 250 allottees.

Minority schools found turning down EWS kids

The department of education has warned of legal action against private schools with the minority status that are not admitting children from economically weaker sections (EWS) under the land allotment scheme. "It is clear that private recognised schools, including minority schools, have to admit 15 per cent EWS children from entry-level to class XII as per the land allotment policy. The department has time and again requested to admit the children under the EWS quota. Some schools are not implementing the provisions of the land allotment scheme," stated a letter.

85
children killed since start of Russian offensive, said office of Ukraine's Prosecutor General

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • SW: Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	21	4	SNY	Los Angeles	24	11	SNY
Colombo	31	25	LC	Melbourne	25	18	LR
Dhaka	35	22	LC	Moscow	3	-6	SW
Dubai	34	22	SNY	New York	14	5	SNY
Houston	26	12	LC	Singapore	30	25	TDS
Istanbul	6	0	LC	Toronto	6	1	LC
London	13	3	LC	Washington	16	4	SNY

Int'l Centre for Peacekeeping & Security near Poland border attacked • 35 dead, over 130 hurt • It was a training centre for Ukrainian forces with foreign instructors

RUSSIAN AIR STRIKES ROCK UKRAINIAN MILITARY BASE

Police detain a man during a protest in Saint Petersburg on Sunday | AFP

LVIV

THIRTY-FIVE people died and more than 130 were injured when Russian troops launched air strikes on a military training ground outside Ukraine's Lviv, near the border with Poland, local officials said Sunday.

Russia "launched an air strike on the International Centre for Peacekeeping and Security", the head of the Lviv regional administration, Maksym Kozytsky, said on his verified Facebook page. "I have to announce that, unfortunately, we have lost more heroes: 35 people died as a result of the shelling of International Peacekeeping and Security Centre," Kozytsky later wrote on Telegram, updating an initial toll of nine. "(As many as) 134 more with injuries of varying severity are in a military hospital," he added.

The military base in Yavoriv, located some 40 kilometres (25 miles) northwest of the city, was a training centre for Ukrainian forces with foreign instructors, including from the United States and Canada. It was also a hub for joint exercises involving Ukrainian soldiers and NATO allies.

Ukrainian Defence Minister Oleksiy Reznikov said "foreign instructors work here", although it was unclear whether any were present during the attacks. Reznikov condemned the bombardment as a "new terrorist attack on peace & security near the EU-NATO border", calling for the imposition of a no-fly zone. "Action must be taken to stop this. Close the sky!" he wrote.

Cruise missiles were fired from Russian planes located over the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov, the regional governor said. *AFP*

US authorises $200 million in additional military equipment

Washington on Saturday authorised $200 million in additional military equipment for Ukraine. Russia the same day warned that its troops could target supplies of Western weapons to Ukraine. Many Ukrainians have fled to relative safety in Lviv since the launch of Russia's invasion.

Battles rage outside Kyiv

Fighting raged in the Kyiv suburbs as Russian forces advanced ever closer to the capital. Only roads to the south remained open and Kyiv was preparing to mount a "relentless defence", according to the Ukrainian president's office. Bucha to the northwest was being entirely held by Russian forces along with parts of Irpin, Ukrainian soldiers at the scene said.

'Foreign mercenaries killed'

Moscow: Russia said Sunday that an airstrike it carried out in Ukraine, near the Polish border, killed foreign citizens who had joined Kyiv's army in its fight against Russia. "As a result of the strike, up to 180 foreign mercenaries and a large cache of foreign weapons were destroyed," Russian defence ministry spokesman Igor Konashenkov was quoted as saying.

An Ukrainian serviceman sits on a baby trolley under a destroyed bridge in the city of Irpin on Sunday | AFP

125,000 civilians evacuated: Zelenskyy

Lviv: Ukraine's president Volodymyr Zelenskyy said nearly 125,000 civilians have been evacuated through safe-passage corridors so far. "We have already evacuated almost 125,000 people to safe territory through humanitarian corridors," he said in a video address on Sunday. "The main task today is Mariupol (besieged city). Our convoy with humanitarian aid is two hours away from Mariupol," he said.

Israel minister condemns Russia's invasion

Tel Aviv: Israel's foreign minister on Sunday condemned Russia's invasion of Ukraine and called on Moscow to halt its attacks and end the conflict. Yair Lapid's criticism was among the strongest that has come from Israeli officials since the war began. His remarks set him apart from Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett, who has stopped short of condemning Russia.

Over 800 detained across Russia

Moscow: Russian police detained more than 800 people for protesting Moscow's "military operation" in Ukraine Sunday, as the conflict continues for a third week. OVD-Info, which monitors arrests during protests, said police had detained 817 people during demonstrations in 37 cities in Russia. An AFP journalist in Moscow witnessed at least a dozen arrests and said police were taking away anybody without press papers. There were also multiple arrests In Saint Petersburg,

Demonstration by Putin supporters

Belgrade (Serbia): Dozens of cars drove through Serbian capital of Belgrade on Sunday in support of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The occupants waved Russian and Serbian flags, honked horns and chanted pro-Putin slogans. Some cars had the letter Z painted on them, a symbol of support for the Russian president. The protest was organised by a small far-right group. Serbia has refused to join international sanctions against its ally Russia despite formally seeking EU membership and voting in favour of the U.N. resolution condemning Moscow's aggression.

People pray during a Sunday mass for the army in Saints Peter and Paul Garrison Church in Lviv on Sunday | AFP

US sets high-level talks with China today over Russia-Ukraine war

WASHINGTON

A HIGH-LEVEL US delegation will meet in Rome on Monday with a top Chinese official, the White House said as it warned Beijing would face severe "consequences" if it helps Russia evade sanctions over its war in Ukraine.

US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan and Yang Jiechi, the Chinese Communist Party's chief diplomat, "will discuss ongoing efforts to manage the competition between our two countries and discuss the impact of Russia's war against Ukraine on regional and global security," National Security Council spokesperson Emily Horne said Sunday in a statement.

Beijing has declined to directly condemn Moscow for launching its invasion, and has repeatedly blamed NATO's "eastward expansion" for worsening tensions between Russia and Ukraine, echoing the Kremlin's prime security grievance.

Sullivan made a round of Sunday talk shows to say the White House was "watching closely" to see whether China provides material or economic support to Russia to help it evade the punishing impact of sanctions. "It is a concern of ours, and we have communicated to Beijing that we will not stand by and allow any country to compensate Russia for its losses from the economic sanctions," he said on CNN show "State of the Union."

Sullivan said that while he did not wish to "brandish threats" against major economic rival China, "we are communicating directly, privately to Beijing that there will absolutely be consequences for large-scale sanctions-evasion efforts."

Beijing said this past week that its friendship with Russia remains "rock solid" despite international condemnation of Moscow, and has expressed an openness to help mediate an end to the war. *AFP*

US JOURNALIST SHOT DEAD IN UKRAINE, ONE INJURED

IRPIN

A US JOURNALIST was shot dead and another wounded on Sunday in Irpin, a suburb of Kyiv that has witnessed some of the fiercest fighting since Russia invaded Ukraine.

Papers found on the American reporter's body identified him as video documentary shooter Brent Renaud, 50, of New York. A New York Times ID card was among the papers, leading to reports he worked for the paper, but the US daily said he was not working for it at the time of his death.

The International Federation of Journalists identified the wounded reporter as US photographer Juan Arredondo. A third victim, a Ukrainian who had been in the same car as the Americans, was also wounded, according to a medic at the scene. Danylo Shapovalov, a surgeon volunteering for the Ukrainian territorial defence, said Renaud died instantly from a gunshot wound to his neck. Ukrainian officials were quick to blame Russian forces for the shooting but the exact circumstances were unclear.

White House National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan said, "We'll be consulting with the Ukrainians to determine how this happened and then to measure and execute appropriate consequences as a result of it. *AFP*

POPE DECRIES KILLING OF CHILDREN, CIVILIANS

Vatican City: Pope Francis has decried the 'barbarianism' of the killing of children and other defenceless civilians in Ukraine and pleaded for a stop to the attacks "before cities are reduced to cemeteries." In some of his strongest denunciations yet of the war in Ukraine, and in an apparent reference to Russia, he said there are no strategic reasons that hold up in the face of such armed aggression. Francis told about 25,000 people gathered in St. Peter's Square on Sunday that Mariupol, the southern Ukrainian city which 'bears the name' of the Virgin Mary, has 'become a city martyred by the heartbreaking war that is devastating Ukraine.' 'In the name of God, I ask: Stop this massacre," Francis said, sparking applause from the pilgrims, tourists and Romans, some of whom held Ukrainian flags, in the square.

Russia sees 'progress' at conflict talks with Ukraine

Moscow: Russia on Sunday said negotiators were making headway at talks to resolve fighting in Ukraine, more than two weeks after President Vladimir Putin ordered his army over the borders of its pro-Western neighbour. Leonid Slutsky, a senior member of Russia's negotiating team, told the state-run television network RT that "significant progress" was made following several rounds of talks hosted on the border of neighbouring Belarus.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, the undersigned advocate on behalf of my client **S.Lakshmipathy and others,** the Petitioners have filed the above Petition for the death certificate of **JAYALAKSHMAMMA W/o S.LAKSHMIPATHY was died on 28/06/2008** at Kodagalahatti, Hunsamaranahalli Post, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore-562157, If any parties who have objections may dispute regarding the same can appear before the Principal Civil Judge and JMFC at Devanahalli and date of hearing **on 30/04/2022 at 11.00A.M. in C.Mis.No.275/2021**

By Order of the Court, Sd/- Chief Ministerial Officer Civil Judge & JMFC Court, Devanahalli
Smt. Chandrakala.B, Advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE
FOR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY

NOTICE is hereby given that **Mrs Rajini Chadha** is willing to sell the schedule property in favour of my Client Mr.Sagar Tonapi, free from all encumbrances. Any person having any right, title, interest, claim or demand of any nature whatsoever in respect of the said property, is hereby required to make the same known in writing along with the documentary proof thereof, to the below mentioned his Counsel Mr.RADESH.K, Office at No.7, HM Pearl Complex, Thubarahalli Bangalore. within 07 days from the date of publication hereof, failing which the negotiations shall be completed, without any reference to such claims and the claims if any, shall be deemed to have been given up or waived.

Schedule:

All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Western Portion of Khata No: 317/4/48/1-B-04, measuring 3900 Sq.ft of Plot area along with independent cottage bearing No: B-04, Comprising Ground & First Floor, measuring 3500 Sq.ft of built up area in the Project known as "PARADIE NEST", formed in Sy Nos: 32/1A & 48/1, Situated at Ramagondanahalli, Toobarahalli Village, VarthurHobli, Bangalore.

Contact : **Mr. RADESH BE, LL.B, LL.M**
Director- MKM Legal Solutions Pvt Ltd.
e-mail id: radesh@mkmlegalsolutions
Contact No: +91 9886630434.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that, my Client – **Sri. Mirle Varadaraj,** S/o. Late. Boregowda, Aged about 60 years, Residing at No. 544, 5th Main, Kengeri Satellite Town, Bangalore – 560 060, has lost the Original Deeds (i) The Cancellation of Gift Deed dated 11/07/2014 executed by Smt. Girija V Raj in favour of Sri. Mirle Varadaraj, Registered vide document No. KEN-1-03798/2014-15, CD No. KEND572, SRO, Kengeri, Bangalore, (ii) The Gift Deed dated 11/07/2014 executed by Sri. Mirle Varadaraj in favour of Smt. Girija V Raj, Registered vide document No. KEN-1-03800/2014-15, CD No. KEND572, SRO, Kengeri, Bangalore, and (iii) The Sale Deed dated 18/08/2014 executed by Smt. Girija V Raj in favour of Sri. G C Chandrashekar, Registered vide document No. RRN-1-02511/2014-15, CD No. RRND143, SRO, Rajarajeshwarinagar, Bangalore, in respect of the the Vacant Site bearing No. 09, having BBMP Khatha No. 3355/17/1A-2 and 17/1A4, New BBMP Khatha No. 3355/5/3355/17/A2/17/1A4/9, Old Sy No. 17/1A, New Sy No. 17/1A2 & 17/1A4 measuring 0-18-Guntas converted for Residential purpose vide Official Memorandum Certificate No. ALN/S/SR(KEM)51/2011-12 dated 09/08/2011, Situated at Pattanagere Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring East to West : 37 Ft and North to South : 40 Ft., measuring 1,480 Sq Ft., If any of the Public Persons find or in possession of the Original Deeds (i) Cancellation of Gift Deed dated 11/07/2014, (ii) The Gift Deed dated 11/07/2014 & (iii) The Sale Deed dated 18/08/2014, shall hand over to the address mentioned below.

ARAVINDKUMAR, Advocate.
No. 636, 14th Cross, 8th Main, 2nd Phase, J P Nagara, BANGALORE - 560 078.
Mob : 9880328181.
Place : Bangalore, Date : 12/03/2022.

IDFC FIRST Bank Limited
(Formally known as Capital First Limited)
CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792
Registered Office : KRM Towers, 7th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai - 600031. TEL: +91 44 4564 4000 | FAX: +91 44 4564 4022.
Authorized Officer - Ms Preeti Toshniwal | Cont. No. +91-9694702013

APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to rule 8 (6)]
SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **physical possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **IDFC First Bank Limited Formally known as Capital First limited,** will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is",** and **"Whatever there is"** on **18th April 2022**, for recovery of **INR 2,18,90,202.89 /-** as on **20.04.2021** due to the **IDFC First Bank Limited** from **1. Narayana Mukunda Reddy, 2. Manjula N.** The Reserve Price for the property will be **INR 2,04,19,280/- (Rupees Two Crore Four Lakhs Nineteen Thousand Two Hundred and Eighty Only)** and the Earnest Money Deposit will be 10% of the Reserved Price **INR 20,41,928/- (Rupees Twenty Lakhs Forty-One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty Eighty Only).**

DESCRIPTION OF MORTGAGE PROPERTY

1. All the piece and parcel of the property consisting of Self occupied Commercial Property located at - SITE NO 290/47/2, PROPERTY SY NO 47/2, PROPERTY NO. 15020010320072O609, HINNAKKI, VILLAGE JIGINI HOBLI, ANEKAL TALUK-562106, MEASURING EAST TO WEST (86.2+84)2FT AND NORTH TO SOUTH 112.08 FT AND TOTAL 9600 SQ.FT., AND **BOUNDED BY AS FOLLOWING: NORTH :** PROPERTY OF SIDDAREDDY'S CHILDREN **SOUTH :** II STAGE SITES IN SURYA CITY **EAST :** ROAD **WEST :** PROPERTY OF ANJALAMMA

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in IDFC First Bank Limited website i.e. **www.idfcfirstbank.com**

Date: 14/03/2022
Sd/-
Authorised Officer
IDFC First Bank Limited

UNION BANK OF INDIA
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)
BTM LAYOUT BRANCH
No.425/426, 7th Cross, 8th Main, Mico Layout, 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560 076.Ph: 080-22958259, 22958269
E-mail : btmlayout@unionbankofindia.com

POSSESSION NOTICE (Rule 8(1) (For Immovable Properties))

Whereas, the under signed being the Authorised Officer of Union Bank of India, **BTM Layout Branch** under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (Second)Act, 2002 (Act No. 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notices dates calling upon the following Borrowers / Guarantors / Mortgagers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice with further interest / cost etc,. **within 60 days** from the date of the said notice. Details of demand notices such as date of issue and loan outstanding amount are mentioned against each borrower under.

1. Name of the Borrowers/Mortgagers:-(1) Mahadev S, (2) Chandramma W/o Mahadev S both Residing No 17/1, 1st Main, 5th Cross Hosahalli Vijayanagara Bengaluru 560040.
Demand notice dated: 21.04.2021 **Possession Notice Date:27.09.2021**
Total amount mentioned in the notice: Rs. 21,83,482.35 (Rupees Twenty One Lakh Eighty Three Thousands Four Hundred Eighty Two And Thirty Five Paisa Only) as on 10-03-2021 and interest/cost/expenses thereon.
Description of Immovable Property: No 51/1 Situated At 5th Cross Hosahalli Bangalore BBMP Ward No 34 R.P.C. Layout Old Pid No 34-25-50/1 New Pid No 124-W01133-48.

The above borrowers / Mortgagers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers / Guarantors / Mortgagers and the public in general that the under signed has taken symbolic possession of the properties described herein above in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said act read with the rule 8 of the said Rules on above dates. The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

The Borrowers / Guarantors / Mortgagers and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of **Union Bank of India, BTM Layout Branch** for the amount mentioned against their names with further interest accrued thereon cost.

Date : 09.03.2021 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place : Bangalore **Union Bank of India**

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521

No.SEE/Tr(M)/RMGC/EE(O)/AEE-2/F-56/38/21-22/5224-26 Date: 11-03-2022
No.SEE/Tr(M)/RMGC/EE(O)/AE(T)/F-38&32/21-22/5450-52 Date: 11-03-2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement Portal)

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited, invites tenders for the following works on **Total Turnkey Basis** on **Percentage Tender Basis.**

1) Bid Enquiry No. KPTCL/SEE/TR(M)/RMGC/REPAIR OF TFR/EE(O)/AEE-2/21-22/EPR-295, Dtd: 10.03.2022 for the work of **Dismantling, Transportation (to and fro), Repair, Testing, Erection and Commissioning of sick Power Transformer of rating 20MVA, 66/11kV(3 Limbs), BBL Make, Sl.No. 4767/2 Power Transformer failed on 18.10.2021 at 66/11kV Sub-Station Kanakapura.**

2) Bid Enquiry No. KPTCL/SEE/TR(M)/RMGC/REPAIR OF TFR/EE(O)/AE(T)/21-22/EPR-293, Dtd: 04.03.2022 for the work of **Dismantling, Transportation (to and fro), Repair, Testing, Erection and Commissioning of sick Power Transformer of rating 31.5MVA, 66/11kV(3 Limbs), Victory Make, Sl.No. 4-0012/8 Failed at 220/66/11kV Yerrandanahalli R/s in TL&SS, Division, Yerrandanahalli.**

The bids will be received through **'e-Procurement Mode' only.** The detailed notification regarding the subject tenders can be got by logging on to **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink **'e-Procurement-KPTCL'** or to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **14.03.2022.** Further details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- **Superintending Engineer (Ele),**
Transmission (Maintenance), KPTCL, Ramanagara Circle,
220/66/11kV Vrushabhavati Valley Station, 1st Floor, Near RR Nagar Arch, Mysore Road, Bengaluru - 560039, Tele: 080-28608484

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Mr. Abhishek Jindal son of Mr. Sushil Kumar Jindal is purchasing the schedule properties from Smt. Ramamani Muniswamy wife of N Muniswamy and Smt. Rupa Takran wife of Sundeep Singh Takran who are having valid right title and interest, on the schedule properties and are assuring my client that the Schedule Properties are not subjected to sale, charge/bank loan, mortgage, lease, rental and any types of litigation filed or pending.

If any party has got any objection or claim, charge over the schedule properties he/she may object in writing by placing their documents concerning to their claims with the undersigned within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which my client will proceed further with the completion of the absolute sale deed, by ignoring any claim, which may be put forth subsequently.

SCHEDULE PROPERTIES

Item No. 1: All that piece and parcel of the agricultural property bearing Sy No 37/5, measuring 2 acres and 28 Guntas situated at Machagondahalli Village, Tubagere Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk , Bangalore Rural District [hereinafter referred to as the "Schedule Property"] which is bounded as follows **East by:** Sy No 37/3, Property belongs to Munianjanappa, **West by:** Sy No.43/2, property belongs to Anjanappa S/o Shamanna, **North by:** Property Sy No 42/1 (Chogondahalli Village) Presently owned by Ramamani Muniswamy, **South by:** Road.

Item No.2: All that piece and parcel of the agricultural property bearing Sy No 43/1, measuring 0-38 Guntas situated at Chogondahalli Village, Tubagere Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk , Bangalore Rural District [hereinafter referred to as the "Schedule Property"] which is bounded as follows **East by:** Property in Sy No 37/5, G K Sujatha, **West by:** Village Boundary of Chogondahalli, **North by:** Property Sy No 42/1 of Ramamani Muniswamy, **South by:** Government Kharab.

Smt. Ramamani Muniswamy wife of N Muniswamy and Smt. Rupa Takran wife of Sundeep Singh Thakranare the joint owners of Item No 1 and 2 properties and have instructed the following advocate to issue the public notice

Item No.3: All that piece and parcel of the land bearing old Sy No 42/1 and after phodi New Sy No 42/3, measuring 0-38 Guntas situated at Chogondahalli Village, Tubagere Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, and Bangalore Rural District which is bounded as follows **East by:** Property belonging to Munianjanappa, **West by:** Munegowda's land, **North by:** Land belongs to Basavaraju, **South by:** Property of Ramamani Muniswamy's (W/o N Muniswamy and Rupa Takran's land (W/o Sundeep Thakran)

I the owner **Smt. Ramamani** Muniswamy W/o N Muniswamy,have instructed the following advocate to issue the public notice

From, **Mr. Srinivasa .N,** Advocate
No. 16, 1st Cross, "H" Colony, Indiranagar 1st Stage Extension
Bangalore 560038. Ph 9845165285

QuoteExpress **NEVER COMPLAIN AND NEVER EXPLAIN** › BENJAMIN DISRAELI

RBL BANK LTD
Registered Office: 1st Lane, Shahpuri, Kolhapur-416001
Branch Office: RBL BANK LTD at Third Floor, Prestige Towers, 99 & 100, Residency Road, Bangalore, Karnataka-560025

PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE

The Authorised officer of **RBL Bank Ltd.** under Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Asset and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued **demand notice** calling upon Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within **60 days** from receipt of the said notice.
The Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor and the public in general that the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the **RBL Bank Ltd.** has **taken PHYSICAL POSSESSION** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 9 of the said rules as per detail below:

Sl. No.	Name of Account and Address of the Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagor	Demand Notice date	Amount Due (Rs.)	Details of the immovable property for which physical possession is taken	Date of physical possession
1	**M/S. MOD-HUT,** New No.531, Old No-1, Anjaneya Temple Street, V V Puram, Bangalore, Karnataka-560004 **(Borrower). MRS. ANU GURJEEV CHHABRA,** #531, Anjaneya Temple Street, V V Puram, Bangalore, Karnataka-560004. **Also At: M/S. MOD-HUT,** New No.531, Old No.1, Anjaneya Temple Street, V V Puram, Bangalore, Karnataka-560004 **(Co-Borrower, Guarantor & Mortgagor). MR. GURJEEV DHARAMPAL CHHABRA,** #531, Anjaneya Temple Street, V V Puram, Bangalore, Karnataka-560004 **(Co-Borrower).**	**23.06.2021**	**Rs.3,51,26,445.86** (Rupees Three Crore Fifty One Lakh Twenty Six Thousand Four Hundred Forty Five And Eighty Six Paisa Only)With further interest and charges thereon	All that piece and parcel of Residential Property situated on the Northern side of Property bearing No.531, situated at Anjaneya Temple Road, (No.1, Roshan Bagh Road), Visweswarapuram, Bangalore, now it is coming under the jurisdiction of Bangalore MahanagaraPalike, Ward No.50, Bangalore. As per the records of BBMP, the Property bearing No.1, situated at Roshan Bagh Road, Ward No.50, Bangalore Property Measuring: East to West: 36'-19"+32'-1"/2 Feet, North to South: 51'-9"+49'-10"/2 Feet in all measuring 1722 Sq.feet. **Bounded on the: East by:**Nanjappa Reddy's Property, **West by:** Roshan Bagh Road, **North by:** Padmavathi's Property, **South by:** Anjaneya Temple Road. Along with 7 Squares RCC Roofed House in Ground Floor, 4 Square RCC Roofed House in First Floor, Red Oxide Flooring, Doors and Windows are made up of jungle wood with all civic amenities thereon.	**08.03.2022**

The Borrower/ Mortgagor/ Guarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **RBL Bank Ltd.**

Place: BANGALORE, Date: 12.03.2022 **Sd/- Authorised officer, RBL Bank Ltd.**

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

PERSONAL FINANCE

10 BENGALURU | MONDAY 14.03.2022 | newindianexpress.com

₹45,608 cr Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) have pulled out from the Indian markets in March so far, as per depositories data

Should you buy stocks on dips?

The strategy seems not to be working for traders and short term investors at the moment

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

WITH benchmark indexes Nifty and Sensex skidding around 6% in 2022 so far, many financial gurus are advising investors to accumulate stocks that are available at attractive prices. Consider this, one of the most talked about stocks Tata Motors was last week trading at around ₹375 a price as against its 52-week high of ₹536.

Similarly, shares of HDFC have plunged 26% from its 52-week high level while those of HDFC Bank fell over 19%. Bajaj twins- Bajaj Finserv and Bajaj Finance, too, have plummeted up to 20%

However, this strategy, often called buying on dips, seems to be not working for traders and short term investors at the moment. There are multiple examples in the market that the stock, especially of new-age internet companies, has hit fresh lows in successive trading sessions. Analysts feel while long-term investors can make invest in fundamentally strong companies, short-term investors should gauge their risk appetite before buying equity in this volatile phase.

"The geopolitical tension due to the Russian-Ukraine crisis is creating a negative impact not only on their country but also across the world. We have seen crude prices spike to the roof. The soaring crude oil prices have in turn made the Indian stock market volatility and the rupee hit a low," said Yash Gupta, Equity Research Analyst, Angel One Limited. He added, "We expect the market to be volatile till the conclusion of the Russian-Ukraine war. We suggest investors deploy 50% of their fresh investments in markets as any negative news on geopolitical tension can impact the global market adversely."

International benchmark brent crude futures cooled down to close at $112.67 a barrel on March 11, falling sharply from $139 during the previous week. Crude remains an important factor for India and its market as the country imports more than 80% of oil requirement.

Tricky strategy

Deepak Jasani, Head of Retail Research, HDFC Securities, said that if the investor is underinvested in equities, he can start adding to equities in a systematic manner in Nifty stocks or stocks where he has done detailed analysis and in case the investor is fully invested, then it would be a good idea to cut the weight on rallies by exiting stocks that have disappointed recently in terms of financial performance or have risen quite a lot. He added that there is no right or wrong time to add on dips as the markets are dynamic and the earnings data and valuation parameters keep changing from time to time.

For long-term investors, according to Jasani, large dips in the market offer a great opportunity to add provided they have cash left to invest. This means that they keep taking profits on steep rises in stock prices and rebalance their stock weightage in their overall portfolio.

However, adding on correction is a tricky thing to do as if you are too early, and the markets keep falling you will run out of cash and feel foolish. If you are too late then on upward reversal you may be too late to add and miss the opportunity. Hence a staggered add on dips is preferable and investors can start small and keep adding more and more on dips to bring down their average buying cost, he said.

High uncertainty

Following a major crash when Russian Forces first invaded Ukraine, India's equity market last week ended in postive after registering losses for four straight weeks. Supported by really in metals, infra, IT, energy, FMCG, pharma and oil & gas stocks as most stocks where available at 10-30% discount from their 52-week high, the Nifty jumped 385 points, or 2.4%, to 16,630, and the Sensex rallied 1,216 points, or 2.2%, to 55,550. India VIX, also known as fear index, closed at 25.34 levels on Friday, down more than 9% on weekly basis and falling 25% from its recent high of 34 levels on February 24.

However, one positive week in unlikely to overcome multiple challenges the market is facing at the moment. Brokerage firm Morgan Stanley last week cut its CY2022 year-end Sensex target to 62,000 from 70,000 earlier, implying an 11.8% upside from Thursday's closing of 55,464.39.

Alternative to Equity

Advising on alternate investment, Jasani said that gold and Bank savings account/FD are the best alternatives for people who are afraid to start adding equities. Some private Banks offer a high rate of interest on savings account.

Debt mutual funds suffer from MTM (market to market) related falls in their NAV (net asset value) when interest rates keep rising or the credit rating of the investee companies fall.

What's happening at markets

- Beside Sun Pharma, no stock in the 30-stock index Sensex is trading around its 52-week high
- A large number of fundamentally strong stocks trading near their 52-week low prices
- Russia-Ukraine conflict, crude price and Possible interest rate hikes remain a challenge

- Morgan Stanley cuts its year-end Sensex target to 62,000 from 70,000 earlier

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

WHY MORE WOMEN INVESTORS MATTER

RAJAS KELKAR

THE Covid-19 pandemic was crueller to women than men. A high-frequency phone survey data collected by the World Bank in the initial phase of the Covid-19 pandemic up to July 2020 shows that 42% of women lost their jobs when 31% of men lost theirs. According to the data from another World Bank survey, women-led businesses were disproportionately affected by the crisis. "Women-owned businesses are concentrated in sectors that were harder-hit by lock-downs and mobility restrictions. Even within these sectors, women-owned businesses fared worse," the survey said. By September 2020, men had recovered 49% of their initial employment losses, compared with 30% of women.

Women in India have not been an exception. Women workers in rural and urban areas were affected due to the pandemic and suffered a loss of income.

Any loss of income or even uncertainty can directly affect saving and investing.

The impact on your finances could be profound if you were without a stable income for a year. It is worse if you are a woman.

What next for women

It was the International Women's Day on 8 March 2022. Businesses put out social media posts, primarily pink, to celebrate their women's workforce. Many fintech companies pushed out surveys among their women customers to coincide with the Women's Day celebrations. One survey said that gold and fixed deposits were the top investment instruments of choice for most women. Public Provident Fund and chit funds are other popular instruments. Another survey by Scripbox, a digital financial products distributor, found that 44% of women they surveyed prioritised a financial plan and 40% committed to saving more. As many as 22% started investing during the pandemic.

A survey by Grip, another fintech company, said that 40% of respondents did not know how to diversify their portfolios. A third of the women surveyed said they depend on others to handle their investments.

For women, financial resilience is perhaps a priority before financial freedom. Your attitude towards managing money is conservative. You are not inclined to take risks as men do. You also have your reasons for that risk-averse behaviour.

The surveys point out that there are more of you in the financial system now than ever before. That is a good thing as it can help you plan and invest better than before. Your dinner table conversations would be more meaningful now on money matters. This column advises you to take responsibility for your money much more than you did before. A World Bank study showed that households and businesses with access to various financial services withstand shocks better than those who do not. Borrowing through legitimate sources investing through the regulated stock markets is an essential first step. You can shepherd the direction of your household finances better if you are armed with adequate knowledge. It is easier to learn about various banking and financial services products than ever before.

Regulators in India like the Reserve Bank of India, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority or IRDA emphasise investor education.

It is a wonderful coincidence that India has appointed the first woman as Sebi chief. Madhabi Puri Buch, who has immense experience in the financial services sector, would be pleased to know that more women are getting into direct investing in the stock market.

Your first step would be to enhance your knowledge by regularly updating yourself with information. Several YouTubers create explanatory videos and social media content to get you started. You can begin reading periodicals and books on investing. If you are salaried and have a steady income, work with a financial advisor. It is good to have an independent view of money. They can help you channelise your savings towards investments that take you closer to them. The evolving financial system has created enablers all around you. The onus of building that financial resilience is on you.

(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

MONEY-WISE

SAVING ONESELF FROM FINANCIAL NOISE

PV SUBRAMANYAM

IT is always easy to get carried away by noise. An investor needs a lot of learning, patience, and skill to know what is important and what works in Investing. Every investor is searching for the magic pill - whether it is for health or wealth.

The smartest people in the world - men and women - know what sells, what makes money and what is good. Like the CEO of a big food company who famously said, "I do not allow my children to consume this sugary syrup". Similarly in investing too what works is simple. Start early, earn well, live within your means, save (and later invest) well. That is all. Imagine I have to say this time and again a zillion times without the reader (viewer) feeling that I am repeating myself. It is not easy.

FINANCIAL ADVICE

PV SUBRAMANYAM

writes at www.subramoney.com and has authored the best seller 'Retire Rich - Invest ₹ 40 a day'

It is difficult to set up a newspaper or a magazine. However, to reach people it has become much easier now. All a person has to do is to create a blog or a video channel. Many people will not like to hear simple advice. Mostly, they want to hear words like 'Futures and Options', 'Momentum Trading, doing a SIP in chosen stocks, etc. These at best are the tactics - you need to know that UNDERSTANDING your goals, and sitting tight during tough times are very important. Sadly what is being thrown at you is 'Financial Porn' - it excites but does not help you in creating the relationships that are needed in life. All these terms like 'FnO" etc. are good only to excite, but not in creating a nice corpus. We also need to understand the difference between looking good when the video (or blog) is being made and creating Wealth for yourself in the long run is very important. It is easy for me to tell you "Cash is King" - may sound brilliant on the day of the Ukraine war, but be absolutely stupid just 45 days later when the market goes up. However, on the day you see my video I look like a brilliant investor. YOUR investing has to make money for you. My video has to look good on the day I make it. Remember this is a very big difference.

Unfortunately, for most people it is easy to get excited than to build a long relationship. Similarly in the field of investing advice most people want great advice - at least, that is their stated agenda. However, when you talk to them about 'n' - the number of years being more important, power of compounding, they switch off. Their message is loud and clear - give me a quick fix. How do you save an investor from himself (not original, Graham asked this question long ago, Jason Zweig talks about this often).

Given such a situation one shudders to think about what happens to a person who walks out in the wild near a big tiger safari park. Well he knew that there were no tigers in the morning - so he is taking a chance in the night!

How do you save this man from himself?

He is looking for fun and adventure - self-preservation be damned.

TODAY'S STOCK PICK

L&T

Current Price ₹1,726.80

Target Price ₹2,165

L&T's order book grew 3% yoy to ₹3.4t, with OB/sales at 3.3x. The bid pipeline remains strong, with the overall pipeline at ₹3.9t for 4QFY22. L&T rightly prioritized balance sheet strength over growth during the second Covid wave. We estimate an FY21-24E EPS CAGR of 25%, led by 15% CAGR in the core E&C business and reducing losses from the Hyderabad Metro.

Disclaimer: The views and recommendations made above are that of the individual analyst or broking company, and not that of *The New Indian Express*.

— Motilal Oswal Securities Limited

CBDCs have clear edge over other payment systems: FM

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ New Delhi

THE Central bank issued digital currencies (CBDC) have some clear advantages over other digital payment systems as payments using CBDCs are final and thus they reduce settlement risks, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman recently said while addressing a fintech event.

"Imagine a UPI system where CBDC is transacted instead of bank balances, then the need for interbank settlement itself is eliminated," the finance minister said.

Quoting a 2021 BIS survey of central banks, she said that 86% central banks are actively researching the potential for CBDCs, 60% were experimenting with the technology and 14% were deploying pilot projects.

The country's central bank -Reserve Bank of India - has been working on launching a digital currency based on blockchain technology. On the progress of RBI's CBDC, the finance minister said that the banking regulator is looking at the benefits of CBDC and the associated risks, its various design, forms and various use cases.

Reiterating the importance of the fintech industry, the finance minister said that the Indian Fintech Industry would be valued at $150 billion by 2025 almost three times from $50-60 billion in 2020.

She said that the government has laid the grounds for a fintech revolution in the country by implementing JAM (Jan Dhan-Aadhar-Mobile) trinity, and National Broadband Mission (through which all villages will be connected with high-speed internet).

The fintech sector in India has seen record investment because of the digital infrastructure that the government has already created. In 2020-21 alone, fund flows saw a 200% growth. As many as $9.03 billion were raised by Indian fintech companies through 410 equity funding rounds in 2020-21, up from $2.83 billion across 303 rounds previous years, she said.

Payment companies have received more than $4.11 billion in FY21, which shows that payment-based fintech companies are not left behind.

She further said that there are 6,300 fintech companies in India, one out of every four Unicorn are from the fintech segment, and 3% of the recognized start-ups are in the fintech space.

Govt has till May 12 to launch LIC IPO without seeking Sebi approval

THE government has time till May 12 to launch the initial public offering (IPO) of LIC without filing fresh papers with market regulator Sebi, an official said.

The government's sale of about 31.6 crore shares or 5% stake in Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), which was estimated to fetch around ₹60,000 crore to the exchequer, was originally planned to be launched in March, but the Russia-Ukraine crisis has derailed the plans as stock markets are highly volatile.

On February 13, the government filed the draft red herring prospectus (DRHP) for the IPO with Sebi, which granted its approval for the same last week. "We have a window till May 12 to launch the IPO based on the papers filed with Sebi. We are watching the volatility and will file the RHP giving the price band soon," an official said.

The DRHP filed with Sebi had details of the financial results of LIC and also the embedded value till September 2021.

If the government misses the May 12 window available with it, LIC would have to file fresh papers with Sebi giving the results of December quarter and also update the embedded value.

LIC's embedded value, which is a measure of the consolidated shareholders value in an insurance company, was pegged at about Rs 5.4 lakh crore as of September 30, 2021, by international actuarial firm Milliman Advisors. Although the DRHP does not disclose the market valuation of LIC, as per industry standards it would about 3 times the embedded value.

The official further said that although the market volatility has reduced in the last fortnight , it would wait for the market to stabilise further so that retail investors get confidence to invest in the stock. LIC has reserved up to 35% of its total IPO size for retail investors. "The portion reserved for retail investors require about ₹20,000 crore to come in from retail buyers. Based on our market assessment, currently the retail demand is not as much to bid for the entire quota of shares," the official said. *PTI*

HIGH DEMAND

Gold imports surge to $45 bn in April-Feb

INDIA'S gold imports, which have a bearing on the country's current account deficit (CAD), surged by about 73% to $45.1 billion during April-February this fiscal on account of higher demand, according to official data.

The imports stood at $26.11 billion in April-February 2021. In February 2022, however, imports of the precious metal dipped by 11.45% to $4.7 billion, as per the data by the commerce ministry.

The surge in gold imports during the 11-month period contributed to the widening of the trade deficit to $176 billion, against $89 billion in April-February 2021.

India is the world's second-biggest gold consumer after China. The imports mainly take care of the demand by the jewellery industry.

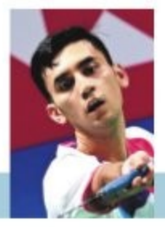
The gems and jewellery exports during the first nine months of the current fiscal grew by 57.5% to $35.25 billion.

India's current account slipped into a deficit of $9.6 billion or 1.3% of GDP in the September quarter, according to the Reserve Bank.

The current account, which records the value of exports and imports of goods and services, along with international transfers of capital, was in surplus both in the quarter-ago and year-ago periods.

Commenting on rising gold imports, Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) Chairman Colin Shah said monthly average imports of gold during April-February 2022 are still at 76.57 tonnes, relatively lower than the usual level. *PTI*

German Open: Lakshya misses out in final hurdle



India badminton ace Lakshya Sen, who shocked World No 1 Viktor Axelsen of Denmark on Saturday, settled for a runner-up finish after losing the men's singles final against Thailand's Kunlavut Vitidsarn in the German Open on Sunday. In a match that last just under 60 minutes, the 20-year-old lost 18-21, 15-21.

In Garden City, bed of roses for India

Pant hits fastest fifty by an Indian while Shreyas once again exhibits his control against spin as hosts post a big target

ASHIM SUNAM @ Bengaluru

WHEN India's Rishabh Pant walked into the middle in the 34th over, the Sri Lankan fielders immediately spread out at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in the second Test on Sunday. There were four fielders controlling the boundary ropes and he was yet to take strike. If Pant has built such a reputation over the last few years with his ball striking ability, Shreyas Iyer is making the most of the opportunities to cement his place with the team under transition. On a day, where 14 wickets fell, both batters scored half centuries to help India take a lead in excess of 400 runs. Sri Lanka were 28/1 at stumps on Day 2 and need 419 runs for victory.

From the last couple of matches, it is quite evident that the management is looking to ease Pant and Iyer at number five and six respectively. The duo have age on their side, a win-win situation for Indian cricket. As for Pant, with no Ajinkya Rahane, the wicket-keeper is gradually making number five his own with some impressive innings so far in the ongoing series against Lanka. His scores of 96 (97balls), 39 (26) and 50 (31) in his last three innings narrate a story of dominance and fearlessness.

On Sunday, Pant's ability to take on bowlers from ball one was evident again. The southpaw did not need much sighters as he smashed a six off the second ball he faced. That just proved to be a teaser with Pant unleashing his array of shots to lend a T20 cricket feel for the massive crowd, whose chants of 'Rishabh Pant, Rishabh Pant' stopped only after his dismissal. Such was his domination that fielders inside the 30-yard circle gradually began to decrease as his innings progressed. His 45-minute stay at the crease comprised of seven fours and two sixes to complete his 28-ball half-century, a new record for the fastest 50 by an Indian in Test cricket. The previous record was held by Kapil Dev in 30 balls.

Even though Pant lost his wicket while going for another aerial shot, Iyer continued his form with some exquisite shots all around the park. His 75-ball 62 comprised nine fours, a day after he had dominated the spinners to compile 92.

The Mumbaikar, playing at six, seems to be a calculated move by the management. A proper batter at six with a good technique against both the spinners and pacers makes him an ideal candidate for that position.

Even while playing abroad, he will strengthen India's batting department further. In fact, he can play shots and also grind it out when required. Besides, he can rotate the strike at will as well. That is an important tool for a number six batter as he might be required to bat with the tail.

After India declared their innings at 303/9, Jasprit Bumrah, who had scalped five in the first innings, struck in the first over, dismissing Lahiru Thirimanne for a duck. Kusal Mendis and Dimuth Karunaratne saw through till the close of play but Sri Lanka face an uphill task to prevent the hosts from winning the series 2-0.

SCOREBOARD

SRI LANKA 1ST INNINGS (O/N 86/6): Dickwella c Pant, b Bumrah 21, Embuldeniya c Pant b Bumrah 1, Lakmal b Ashwin 5, Jayawickrama (not out) 1, Fernando st Pant, b Ashwin 8. **Extras** (b 1) **1. Total** (35.5 ovs, all out) 109. **FOW:** 95/7, 100/8, 100/9. **Bowling:** Bumrah 10-4-24-5, Ashwin 8.5-1-30-2, Shami 6-1-18-2, Jadeja 6-1-15-0, Axar 5-1-21-1.

INDIA 2nd Innings: Agarwal c de Silva b Embuldeniya 22, Rohit c Mathews b de Silva 46, Vihari b Jayawickrama 35, Kohli lbw b Jayawickrama 13, Pant c & b Jayawickrama 50, Shreyas lbw Embuldeniya 67, Jadeja b Fernando 22, Ashwin c Dickwella b Jayawickrama 13, Axar b Embuldeniya 9, Shami (not out) 16. **Extras** (b 8, lb 1, nb 1) **10. Total** (68.5 ovs, for nine decl) 303. **FOW:** 42/1, 98/2, 116/3, 139/4, 184/5, 247/6, 278/8, 303/9. **Bowling:** Lakmal 10-2-34-0, Embuldeniya 20.5-1-87-3, Fernando 10-2-48-1, De Silva 9-0-47-1, Jayawickrama 19-2-78-4

SRI LANKA 2nd Innings: Thirimanne lbw Bumrah 0, Karunaratne (batting) 10, Kusal (batting) 16. **Extras** (lb 2) **2. Total** (7 ovs, for one wicket) **28. FOW:** 1/0. **Bowling:** Bumrah 3-1-9-1, Shami 3-0-13-0, Ashwin 1-0-4-0.

Rishabh Pant hit 50 off 31 balls against Sri Lanka at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium on Sunday | SPORTZPICS

Tamil Nadu's Dhanalakshmi (second left) and Hima Das (second right) during their 200m event at the Indian GP at Thiruvananthapuram on Sunday | BP DEEPU

Dhanalakshmi pips Hima to gold

MARTIN JOSEPH @ Kochi

NEW season, new stories. While a lot of the build-up towards the Indian Grand Prix-1 was about the return of Hima Das after her injury lay-off besides other elite athletes kick-starting their season, it was also a peek into what the future could hold.

Jeswin Aldrin produced a stunning show in the men's long jump where he came close to M Sreeshankar's national record while Priya Mohan showed once again why it is hard to overlook her consistent performances with another dominant display in the 400m. Meanwhile, in the javelin event, a new youngster emerged on the scene with Karnataka's DP Manu showing that he can throw past the 80m mark with an 82.43m throw to fetch gold at the Chandrasekharan Nair Stadium in Thiruvananthapuram on Sunday. In the absence of Sreeshankar, the next biggest name in the event was Muhammed Anees Yahiya who had gone toe-toe with the national record holder in the Indian Open Jumps Competition earlier this month.

However, it was 20-year-old Jeswin who overshadowed the 26-year-old by coming agonisingly close to the national record of 8.26m. In his first meet of the season, Jeswin produced three jumps above the eight-metre with his best coming in his final attempt. After producing 8.09m and 8.11m, the Tamil Nadu native reserved his best for last with an 8.20m leap. To give an indication of how far ahead he was of the competition, second-placed Anees only managed a best jump of 7.70m. "This is just the start of the season for me and I will only get better from here. I do believe I can try and break the national record. I also want to try and qualify for the World Championships. Maybe I can achieve that target in the coming meets," said Jeswin.

Meanwhile, the stocks of 18-year-old Priya continues to rise. The Karnataka sprinter once again upstaged senior runners as she stormed to victory ahead of Poovamma Raju.

Having missed out on a spot in India's 4x400m mixed relay team for the Tokyo Olympics despite some solid performances, the youngster has thrown her hat back into the mix.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

RESULTS (SELECT)

MEN **200m:** 1. Amlan Borgohain (Assam) 20.94s; 2. Nalubothu Shanu Srinivas (AP) 21.31s; 3. S Arokia Rajiv (TN) 21.49s; **400m:** 1. Amoj Jacob (Del) 21.49s; 2. Noah Nirmal Tom (Ker) 46.08s, 3. Rajesh Ramesh (TN) 46.35s; **Long Jump:** 1. Jeswin Aldrin (TN) 8.20m, 2. Muhammed Anees Yahiya (Ker) 7.70m, 3. Praveen Chithravel (TN) 7.58m; **Javelin Throw:** 1. Manu D P (Kar) 82.43m; 2. Rohit Yadav (UP) 80.03m; 3. Uttam Patil (Mah) 76.30m;

WOMEN **200m:** 1. Dhanalakshmi (TN) 23.21s; 2. Hima Das (Assam) 23.45s; 3. Anjali P D (Ker) 24.19 S; **400m:** 1. Priya Mohan (Kar) 52.91s; 2. Poovamma Raju (Kar) 53.39s; 3. Dandi Jyothika Sri (AP) 54.55s; **Long Jump:** 1. Ancy Sojan (Ker) 6.55m; 2. Pooja Saini (Raj) 5.93m; 3. Susmita (Raj) 5.86m; **Javelin: 1.** Kumari Sharmila (Har) 54.20m; 2. Karishma Sanil (Kar) 52.17m.

Security breach: Fan takes selfie with Kohli

ASHIM SUNAM @ Bengaluru

A major security breach took shape in the penultimate over of the India-Sri Lanka Test match at the Chinnaswamy Stadium on Sunday. Three fans, one after the other, ran from different directions, towards the Indian slip cordon, where Virat Kohli was stationed at first slip.

The security personnel were late to respond to the situation and by the time they reached the intruders, one of them had taken a selfie with Kohli. After which, the scene looked quite chaotic as officials and security personnel had to run around the fans, who were caught.

"This is something we do not control. Yes obviously, the security concern is an issue. We didn't know and we were not aware. Suddenly we realised that people came along but the authorities came and took them away. We don't know what to say about that. The craze of the game is very high in the country) and sometimes fans get emotional," India pacer Jasprit Bumrah said.

Security personnel chase a fan (R) who invaded the pitch at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium on Sunday | AFP

EXPRESS READ

Pro League: India beat Germany in shoot-out

BHUBANESWAR: The Indian women's hockey team beat Germany 3-0 in a dramatic shoot-out to avenge their first leg defeat to share the honours in the two-legged tie of the FIH Pro League here on Sunday. The home side had lost 1-2 in the shoot-out in the first match on Saturday. Just like on Saturday, both the teams were locked at 1-1 at the end of the regulation time.

Kushagra double takes Jharkhand to 769

KOLKATA: Jharkhand made a giant stride towards advancing to the Ranji Trophy quarterfinals as they posted a mammoth 769 for 9 against a struggling Nagaland on Day 2 of their knockout match at Eden Gardens. The 17-year-old wicketkeeper batter, Kumar Kushagra, top-scored with 266.

Brief scores: Jharkhand 769/9 in 177 ovs (Kushagra 266, Nadeem 123, Anukul 59, Lemtur 3/161, Kense 3/138) vs Nagaland.

EPL: Ronaldo's landmark goals lift United

MANCHESTER: Ralf Rangnick admitted managing Cristiano Ronaldo is "challenging" after the 37-year-old rolled back the years with a hat-trick to beat Tottenham 3-2. The five-time Ballon d'Or winner had scored just once in his previous 10 games, but three fantastic finishes took him clear as the highest scorer in professional men's football history according to FIFA's records with 807 goals for club and country.

6 jr women boxers show gold mettle

AGENCIES @ New Delhi

SIX Indian junior boxers — led by Vini, Yakshika and Vidhi — registered contrasting wins to claim the gold medal at the ASBC Asian Youth & Junior Boxing Championships in Amman, Jordan on Sunday.

Haryana boxer Vini was up against Karina Tokubay of Kazakhstan in the flyweight 50kg final. The Indian boxer started off well and won the first round convincingly, before her opponent made a strong comeback in the second round, which set the tone for a fierce final round that saw both the boxers exchange a lot of punches. Vini was scoring consistently and moving around the ring and secured a 5-0 win.

Yakshika (52kg) displayed remarkable courage and temperament against Uzbekistan's Rakhima Bekniyazova to mount a comeback. The pugilist from Panipat conceded a lot of punches in the first round and was trailing 0-5. Yakshika came back strongly in the second round and counter-attacked brilliantly to level the scores in the second round. She continued her aggressive approach in the last round to complete the comeback and win 4-1.

Vidhi notched up a comfortable 5-0 win against Aya Suwindeh of Jordan in the 57kg featherweight final.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This public notice is issued on behalf of my Client **Smt. Jayalakshmi,** W/o late Radhakrishna Reddy, aged about 78 years, presently residing at No.23/1, 5th Cross, 2nd Main, L.N Colony, Yeshwanthpur, Bengaluru – 560 022.

My Client has filed suit no. O.S. No.26275/2007 before City Civil Court, Bengaluru Mayo Hall Unit (CCH-29). This came to be transferred to the City Civil Court, Bengaluru Unit, and connected with O.S. No.2055/2007 pending before the City Civil Judge, City Unit (CCH-7) (suit filed by Nagaraja Reddy @ Nagaraj N). In the said suit, my Client sought for partition of her husband's share in the joint family properties belonging to late Narasimha Reddy. The said properties are more fully described hereunder, and hereafter referred to as 'Schedule Properties'.

My Client recently became aware that the said Nagaraja Reddy @ Nagaraj N and other defendants in the above suits, are negotiating to sell the Schedule Properties in favour of third parties, inspite of pendency of the above suit. Therefore, my Client is issuing this public notice calling upon the General Public not to venture into purchasing the Schedule Properties, as the same are subject matter of the abovementioned suits. My Client will not be selling the Schedule Properties. Any violation will be strictly dealt with, in accordance with law.

SCHEDULE PROPERTIES

ITEM NO. 1. All the piece and parcel of property bearing old No. 265, (New No. 55), situated in 13th Cross, 4th Main, Malleshwaram in Corporation Ward No. 7, Bangalore – 560 003 measuring East to West 97 ft. and North to South 117 ft. bounded on.

East by : 4th Main Road, **West by :**Dr. Ramachandraiah's house, **North by :** Private property, **South by :**13th Cross Road.

ITEM NO. 2. All the piece and parcel of the converted land in Sy. No. 91 situated at Vijinapura, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, measuring 2 acres bounded on

East by : B.M. Ramaswamy's property, **West by:** Baba Sha's property, **North by :** Railway Station, **South by :** Old Madras Road.

ITEM NO. 3. All the piece and parcel of property bearing old Sy. No. 45/1 A & 45/2 A now Municipal No. 46 and property in site No. 1/A, measuring East-West and North to South totally measuring 54013.5 sq. ft. situated at Yeshwanthapura, Bangalore North Taluk, bounded on.

East by : National Highway, **West by :** Private Property, **North by :** CITB Road, **South by :** C.M.Munishami Reddy's property

ITEM NO. 4. All the piece and parcel of property bearing old No. 3, New No. 11 & 11/1 situated at Sheshadripuram Railway Platform Road, R.V.Shetty Layout, Division No.27, Bangalore, measuring East to West $94'-6" + \frac{100 \text{ ft. and}}{2}$ North to South 60 ft. bounded on.

East by : Property belonging to Kuppaswamy, **West by :** Platform Road, **North by :** Layout road, **South by :** Property belonging to Subbanna.

ITEM NO. 5. All the piece and parcel of property bearing No. No. 19/7, situated at Word No.25, Minerva Mill Quarters Road, Ramachadrapura, Bangalore measuring East to West 99 ft. and North to South 150 ft. bounded on.

East by : Property bearing No.99, **West by :** Private Property, **North by :** Property bearing No.15, **South By :** Property bearing No.18/2.

MITHUN GERAHALLI
Gerahalli Law Offices,
Advocates & Solicitors,
No.9, 2nd Cross, CSI Compound,
(Behind CSI Compound Park),
Mission Road, BENGALURU – 560 027.

Union Bank of India

Jalabhavan Branch,
Ground Floor, "Right Wing"
No. 6, 1st Stage, 1st Phase, BTM Layout,
Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru - 560 029

NOTICE TO BORROWER / GUARANTOR UNDER SUB-SECTION (2) OF SECTION 13 OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002

At your request, Bank has extended credit facilities to the below mentioned individuals against secured assets through its **Union Bank of India, Jalabhavan Branch,** the relevant particulars of the property on which you have created security interest by execution of security agreement/documents & creation of mortgage by way deposit of title deeds are furnished hereunder. As the operation and conduct of the financial assistance/ credit facilities have become irregular, the debts have been classified as Non Performing Assets in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India consequent to the default committed by the borrowers in repayment of the principal debt and interest thereon. As the demand notice sent by register AD calling upon you, was unserved / not acknowledged, this publication is now issued.

1) Name and address of the Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgager: (1) Mr. Basha Khan, (2) Mrs. Reshma Begum, both are residing at: No. 5/6, Old No. 5, Classic 1st Cross, kendra Upadyayara Sangha Layout, Teachers Colony, Opposite to PSTI, Banashankari 2nd Stage, Near Ganesh Mandir, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore-560 070

Facility / Loan	Limit Sanctioned (Rs)	Outstanding as on 04.05.2021
CHOME-560631000855910	Rs. 74,00,000/-	Rs. 77,18,646/-
CVEHI-560761000759651	Rs. 38,00,000/-	Rs. 20,08,104/-
CVEHI-560761000759988	Rs. 10,00,000/-	Rs. 7,70,291.72/-
CCVLN-560771000201405	Rs. 1,65,00,000/-	Rs. 32,57,197.90/-
Total	Rs. 2,87,00,000/-	Rs. 1,37,54,293.62/-

Description of the secured assets: Schedule-A: All that piece and parcel of the vacant site no. C-1, BBMP Khatha No. 1126/426/41/2/773/4/1 measuring East to West 86+77'6/2 ft and North to South 104 ft, in all measuring 8502 sq.ft carved out of Sy.No. 4/1, situated at Sarakki Kere Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore converted for non - Agriculture residential purpose vide conversion order dated 21.01.2003 vide B.DIS. ALN.SR(S)300/2002-03 and Bounded on: East by: Road, West by: Private Property, North by: Property belonging to Sri. M Mohan Kumar, South by: Property belonging to Sri. P Hari.
Schedule - B: All that piece and parcel of 431 and 373 sq.ft Undivide right, title and interest in Schedule A Property along with 2011 sq.ft with Common right in common area a amenities and one car parking.
Schedule-C: All that piece and parcel of Apartment No. 202 & 303, on the First floor and Second floor measuring super built up area up 1078 sq.ft and 933 sq.ft respectively in Residential Apartment building called as CALVIN LYTONIA being constructed on Schedule A Property with floors, Ceiling and Walls between units jointly belonging to Such apartment owners equally, including shara in common area and on covered car parking.

Amount Outstanding: Rs. 1,37,54,239.62/- (Rupees One Crore Thirty Seven Lakh Fifty Four Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Nine and Paise sixty Two only) with interest and other Charges.
NPA Date: 04.05.2021 **Demand Notice Date: 10.02.2021**

If you fail to repay the aforesaid sum with interest and incidental expenses within 60 days from the date of this notice, Bank shall exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub section (4) of the section 13 of the SARFAESI Act. You are also put on notice that in terms of sub section 13 of section 13 you shall not transfer by sale, lease or otherwise the said secured assets detailed above without obtaining written consent of the Bank. This notice is without prejudice to the Banks rights to initiate such other action or legal proceedings as it deem necessary under any other applicable provisions of law.
Please also note that as per section 13(8) of the Act, you may redeem the secured asset by remitting the amount demanded above together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred tous, at any time before the date of publication of notice for public auction or inviting quotations or tenders from public or private treaty for transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale of the secured asset(s).

Date: 12.03.2022 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place: Bangalore **Union Bank of India**

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
CMG, SDSC - SHAR SRIHARIKOTA - 524124

Brief E-TENDER NOTICE / CORRIGENDUM-A

No:SHAR:CMG:CIVIL:MAINT:E-PT-14(A)/21-22 Dt: 11.03.2022

"Extension of 1st floor admin building@ Keepakkam"(T/C-21-067, Est cost ₹21.74 Lakhs).Sale period extended upto 28.03.2022.Interested tenderers may visit www.isro.gov.in or www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO for details.

Sd/-
GROUP HEAD, CMG/ SDSC SHAR

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
O/o the Chief Engineer, Hydrology
WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

e-Procurement Tender Notice

Online tenders are invited through e-procurement portal for the following works.
NIT No.NHP/APSW/NCB/DSS on KDS/11/2021-22, Dt.14.03.2022
Name of work : Improving the system on "Equitable Distribution of Water in Krishna Delta System and Deficit Water Indent" for Andhra Pradesh Surface Water under National Hydrology Project (NI-IP). PID & Package No.: PID:9203 & Package No: NHP-2020-2021-APSW-454524. Tender document schedules available from 14/03/2022. Obtain the tender schedule from **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.** For Further details visit **https://nhp.mowr.gov.in/home/TenderDetails.aspx** and **http://irrigationap.cgg.gov.in/wrd/getTenderDigest.** Contact: 9989442259, 9494607979. Email: **andhrasw©ap.gov.in**

Sd/- TVNAR Kumar, Dt.11.03.2022, Chief Engineer, Hydrology.
DIPR No.739PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2021-22, Dt:11/03/2022

DAKSHINA KANNADA CO-OPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS' UNION LTD.
(ISO 22000- 2005 CERTIFIED ORGANISATION)
KULSHEKAR,MANGALORE-575005, Ph: 2232682
Fax:0824-2230029 mail:dkmulpurchase@yahoo.com

NO: DKMU/PUR/169/2021-22

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders under two bid system are invited through e-Procurement Portal of G.O.K. from interested Manufacturers/Companies for the following:

Item No.	Description	Quantity	E M D Rs.
1.	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of **Linear 4 Track MAP Tray Sealing Machine** – with Duel Mold Design. Suitable For Packing 100grms 250 Grms & 500 Grams Nandini Varity of Sweet Products	1 LOT	1,50,000

Pre-Bid Meeting/Tender Clarification : **06/04/2022 By 11.00 AM**
The Last Date for Submission of Bids is : **18/04/2022 by 4.00 PM.**
Date of Opening of Technical Tender on : **19/04/2022 at 4.30PM**
Date of Opening of Commercial Tender : **Will be intimated later**

Item-wise detailed Tender Form cost is as per e-Procurement Portal of Government of Karnataka. The Managing Director reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Further details can be had from e-Procurement **website:www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in,** Helpdesk Phone **08046010000, 08022631200** and email support: **support@ihelpdsk.com**

Place: Mangalore **Sd/-**
Date: 08.03.2022 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited from reputed experienced contractors for Renovation /Reconditioning of First & Second Floor Toilets at NSIC Software Technology Park, Chennai

Estimated value of the work: Rs 13.41 lakhs (incl. of GST)
Tender document cost : Rs 1180/- DD in favour of NSIC -STP.
Issue of tender: 14/03/2022 to 04/04/2022

Contact:
DY. GENERAL MANAGER (STBP)
NSIC SOFTWARE TECHNOLOGY BUSINESS PARK
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)
B-24, Guindy Industrial Estate, Ekkaduthangal, Chennai- 600032. Ph: 044-22250445
Email: stpchennai@nsic.co.in | Web: www.nsic.co.in

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KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No. : CEE/TZ/KLB/Civil/2021-22/16320 Date: 10.03.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION (e-Procurement mode only)

KPTCL invites bids for the following works in Kalaburagi Zone on Total turnkey basis.

Bid Enquiry: CEE/TZ/KLB/CIVIL/2021-22/22 dated:09.03.2022. **for Providing peripheral compound wall and construction of RCC bridge at 110/11kV sub-station Jawalgera, Sindhanur Tq.** The bids will be received through electronic tendering mode only. The detailed notifications regarding subject enquiry in the e-Procurement process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website:www.kptcl.karnataka.gov.in on hyperlink "e-Procurement" website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in from **14.03.2022.** Any other details can be had from the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, Electy.,
Transmission Zone, KPTCL, Prasaran Bhavan,
Sedam Road, Kalaburagi-585 106

Government of Tamil Nadu
Highways Department,
NABARD & Rural Roads Circle,
Chengalpattu
TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No. 12 / 2021-2022 / SDO / Dt . 11.03.2022

For and on behalf of Governor of Tamil Nadu Item wise tender through online only will be received upto 20.04.2022, 15.00 hours by the Superintending Engineer (H) NABARD & Rural Roads, Chengalpattu Circle for One bridge work in respect of Cuddalore (H) NABARD & Rural Roads Division under NABARD RIDF.XXVI - 50 Bridge works 2020-2021.

Details of Name of work, approximate value of work, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from 21.03.2022 onwards in the Government website https://tntenders.gov.in. If any Changes / Corrections / Amendments etc to the tender, it will be published on the above Government website only.

Superintending Engineer (H)
NABARD & Rural Roads Circle ,
Chengalpattu - 1

DIPR/1248/ TENDER/ 2022

'சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்'

QuoteExpress

ONCE A NEW TECHNOLOGY ROLLS OVER YOU, IF YOU'RE NOT PART OF THE STEAMROLLER, YOU'RE PART OF THE ROAD › STEWART BRAND

China faces worst outbreak in 2 years

Nearly 3,400 cases reported on Sunday; Rapid antigen kits to be available in pharmacies

COVID

BEIJING: Chinese health authorities reported nearly 3,400 Covid-19 cases on Sunday, double the previous day, forcing lockdowns on virus hotspots as the country contends with its gravest outbreak in two years.

A nationwide surge in cases has seen authorities close schools in Shanghai and lock down several northeastern cities, as almost 19 provinces battle clusters of the Omicron and Delta variants.

The city of Jilin has been partially locked down, with hundreds of neighbourhoods sealed up, an official announced Sunday, while Yanji, an urban area of nearly 700,000 bordering North Korea, was fully closed off. China, where the virus was first detected in late 2019, has maintained a strict 'zero-Covid' policy enforced by swift lockdowns, travel restrictions and mass testing when clusters have emerged.

But the latest flare-up, driven by the highly transmissible Omicron variant and a spike in asymptomatic cases, is challenging that approach.

Zhang Yan, an official with the Jilin provincial health commission, admitted Sunday that local authorities' virus response so far had been lacking. "The emergency response mechanism in some areas is not robust enough, there is insufficient understanding of the characteristics of the Omicron variant... and judgment has been inaccurate," he said at a government press briefing.

Residents of Jilin have completed six rounds of mass testing, local officials said. On Sunday the city reported over 500 cases of the Omicron variant. The neighbouring city of Changchun -- an industrial base of nine million people -- was locked down Friday. The smaller cities of Siping and Dunhua, both in Jilin province, were locked down Thursday and Friday, according to official announcements.

The mayor of Jilin and the head of the Changchun health commission were dismissed from their jobs Saturday, state media reported, in a sign of the political imperative placed on local authorities to squash virus clusters.

But fatigue with the strict approach has been showing in China, with officials increasingly urging softer and more targeted measures to contain the virus, while economists warn that tough clampdowns are hurting the economy.

As cases have climbed since late February, the response in different parts of the country has been generally softer and more targeted compared to December, when the city of Xi'an and its 13 million people were locked down for two weeks. In China's biggest city Shanghai, authorities have increasingly moved to temporarily lock down individual schools, businesses, restaurants and malls over close-contact fears rather than mass quarantines. Long lines have been seen outside hospitals in the city as people rush to obtain a negative Covid test.

As cases rise, the country's National Health Commission announced Friday that they would introduce the use of rapid antigen tests.

The kits will now be available online or at pharmacies for clinics and ordinary citizens to buy for "self-testing", the health commission said. *AFP*

SPA-CIAL DAY

A Maltese dog with clips on its coat rests in the Crufts dog show at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham | AFP

Japan marks 11 years since quake, tsunami

NATURAL DISASTER

TOKYO: Japan on Friday paid tribute to the victims and renewed searches for those still missing from a massive earthquake and tsunami 11 years ago that also triggered a nuclear disaster in Fukushima. Some residents in the tsunami-hit northern prefectures of Iwate and Miyagi walked down to the coast or their memorable places to pray for their loved ones who were killed or washed away. At 2:46 p.m., the moment a magnitude 9 quake struck on March 11, 2011, triggering a massive tsunami, the people observed a moment of silence.

The tsunami that slammed the coastal Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant destroyed its power and cooling functions, triggering meltdowns in three of its six reactors. At a ceremony held by the Fukushima prefecture, PM Fumio Kishida offered prayers to the victims and renewed his pledge to support the ongoing reconstruction efforts in Fukushima. *AP*

Houston theatre's Covid rescue a public good

CULTURE

HOUSTON: After a historic Houston theater seemingly closed for good last year due to economic challenges from the coronavirus pandemic, its supporters — including film lovers, preservationists and directors Richard Linklater and Wes Anderson — got to work to try and revive it. But they also grappled with whether they should be doing this amid a worldwide crisis in which people were dying or suffering economically.

Kyle Vaughan, one of those behind the effort to save the River Oaks Theatre, said with everything that was happening in the world, it would have been easy to say no to this endeavor.

But for Vaughan and those trying to save the theater, the pandemic wasn't just about basic survival centered around food and shelter and good health, but also about trying to prevent another loss, one of a treasured place. "The world is very uncertain right now. It becomes really easy on your little hierarchy of needs to say no right now, we just need to survive," Vaughan said. "I just don't think it's worth it when you come out the other side, there isn't art, there isn't something to look forward to."

The closure of movie theaters, museums, concert halls — places of creating and sharing — throughout the world has highlighted the important role arts and culture play as a public good that supports people's well-being during struggle. "What the pandemic teaches societies is that, in times of crisis, culture is a major resource for resilience, connection and recovery ... It is a global public good that needs to be fully protected and promoted for the benefit of humanity," said a UNESCO report.

While the River Oaks Theatre got a reprieve, other places throughout the world that showcase the arts and culture — a contemporary dance company in Toronto, a popular acting troupe in Madrid — weren't as fortunate.

IN THE COURT OF THE CHIEF METROPOLITAN MAGISTRATE AT BANGALORE

C.MIS. No. 3258 / 2020

BETWEEN: 1) Sri B.S. Narayanaswamy S/o. Late Sonnappa aged about 53 years, **2) B.N. Sahas** S/o. B.S. Narayanaswamy Aged about 22 years, **3) B.S. Munirathnaiah** S/o. Late Sonnappa Aged about 63 years, **4) B.M. Varun,** S/o. B.S. Munirathnaiah Aged about 28 years **5) B.N. Ranjan** S/o. Late B.S. Nagesh, Aged about 29 years, **6) Arus,** S/o. Late B.S. Nagesh Aged about 27 years All are residing at No. 113, Pyramid Green Wood Apartments, Ayyappa Temple Road, Shabarinagar, Byatarayanapura, Bengaluru North Bengaluru - 560 092. ...PETITIONER

AND: The Commissioner, The Register of Births and Deaths, Yelahanka Zone, BBMP, Bangalore. ...RESPONDENT

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, the petitioner has filed petition for obtaining an order seeking direction to above said respondent authority to enter the Death of petitioner's mother by name **Late Giddamma W/o, Late Sonnappa, who was expired on 28-02-2014** at No. 113, Shabarinagar, Byatarayanpura, Ayyappa Temple Road, Sahakarnagar Post, Bengaluru-560 092 and accordingly obtain death certificate from the respondent.

If any person interested to file their objection in this matter, may appear at **11.00 am on 18.04.2022** which the case is posted for hearing, before the Hon'ble CMM Bengaluru.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court this 11.03.2022

By Order of the Court, Sheristedar, CMM Court, Bengaluru

Advocate for petitioner : **Sri. J. Ravikumar,** Advocate, No. 98/2, Sri Ayyppa Layout, Varthur, Bengaluru - 560 087.

PUBLIC NOTICE

LOSS OF ORIGINAL SALE DEED

This is to inform the public that the Registered **original SALE DEED** executed by Assistant Commissioner, Bangalore Development Authority, in favour of **Smt. LEELAVATHI** W/o.Thimmegowda, vide document No.BDA-1-08513-2017-18, dated 23-03-2018 registered in the Office of the Additional District Sub-Registrar, Bangalore, has been lost/misplaced during shifting to new house by my client and said document is not traced so far and a police complaint is lodged in this regard, with Bangalore City Police vide Lost Report No:107836/2020, dated 3/9/2020. The finder of the above document is requested to return the above said document to the below mentioned address ***within 10 days*** from the date of this publication.

Sd/-

R. RAJU GUPTHA, *BA.LL.M,* **ADVOCATE**
152/1, Sarakki Main Road
(Anjaneya Temple Road), 9th Main Corner,
J.P.Nagar I Phase, Bangalore-560078.
Mob: 9886750138

IN THE COURT OF THE XII ADDL. CHIEF METROPOLITAN MAGISTRATE AT BENGALURU

C.MISC. No. 5824 / 2021

BETWEEN: 1) C. VISHALAKSHI, Aged about 55 years, W/O. M. PRABHAKAR, D/O. LATE. H.S. CHANNABASAVACHARI, R/AT No. 126A, 4th Cross, 9th Main, Gokuta 1st Stage, 2nd Phase, Bengaluru North BENGALURU - 560 054. **2) UMASHANKAR C,** S/o. LATE. H.S. CHANNABASAVACHARI, Aged about 52 years, **3) SHIVAKMAR .C** S/O. LATE. H.S. CHANNABASAVACHARI Aged about 49 years, Both petitioner No. 2 & 3 Are residing at No. 855, Anjaneya Temple, Bengaluru Taluk, BENGALURU. ...PETITIONERS

AND : The Commissioner Registrar of Birth & Deaths B.B.M.P -BENGALURU. ...RESPONDENT

PAPER PUBLICATION

WHEREAS, the petitioners named above have filed the petition U/S 13 (3) of Registration of Births & Deaths Act, for issue of Death Certificate of the deceased, deceased is the Mother named as **KEMPA RUDRAMMA W/o. LATE H.S. CHANNABASAVACHARI** as she died on 06.03.2002 at No 855, Anjaneya Temple Street Pipeline, Yeshwanthpur, Bengaluru 560 022 is required for the documentation purpose/Katha transfer and to maintain family statusquo, the same will be published in English News paper - Indian Express and Kannada News paper - Hosadigantha.

Any person interested in this matter, may apear before the above court on or before **28.03.2022.**

Given under my hand and the seal of this court this the 03 day of March 2022.

By Order of the Court, Sheristedar, Court of the XII A.C.M.M, Bengaluru

ADVOCATE FOR PETITIONERS

Aspire Home Finance Corporation Limited

Motilal Oswal Tower, Rahimtullah Sayani Road, Opposite ST Depot, Prabhadevi, Mumbai-400025.
Email :- info@ahfcl.com **CIN :-** U65923MH2013PLC248741

POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY/IES)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Aspire Home Finance Corporation Ltd. under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & in compliance of Rule 8(1) of Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notice/s on the date mentioned against each account calling upon the respective borrower/s to repay the amount as mentioned against each account within 60 days from the date of notice(s)/date of receipt of the said notice/s.

The borrower/s having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/s and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property/ies described herein below in exercise powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the dates mentioned against each account.

The borrower/s in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of Aspire Home Finance Corporation Ltd., for the amount and interest thereon as per loan agreement. The borrowers' attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Sr No	Loan Agreement No. /Name of the Borrower/Co Borrower/Guarantor	Demand Notice date & Amount	Date of possession Taken	Description of the Property/ies mortgaged
1.	LXBAN00117-180055651 Sreedhara Maysnnagowda Ramegowda & Deepa Sreedhara Huchchaiah	**20-04-2021 for Rs. 2185665/-**	**10-03-2022**	Site No. - 27a, Khata No. - 58, Survey No.138 /11, Asb T.v. Nagar, Tavarekaer Village, Near To Kalyanamantapa, Tavaraekaer Hobli, Bengaluru, South Taluk, Rural Karnataka - 562130

Sd/-
Authorized Officer,
(Aspire Home Finance Corporation Ltd.)

Place : Karnataka
Dated : 14.03.2022

KARNATAKA GRAMIN BANK

(A Scheduled Bank established by Government of India; Sponsored by : Canara Bank)
Regional Office, Bengaluru – 560072 Karnataka, R & L Section, Ph: 080-23186095,23217079 : Email:br2504@kgbk.in,
221, Manju mansions, 6th block, 2nd stage, 80 feet ring road, Opp BWSSB Office, Nagarabhavi, Bangalore – 560 072

DEMAND NOTICE

(SECTION 13(2) OF SARFAESI ACT-2002) NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13 (2) OF SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002 (HEREIN AFTER CALLED THE ACT)

At the request, Bank has extended credit facility to the below mentioned individuals against secured assets through its below mentioned Branch as under. The relevant particulars of the property on which you have created security interest by execution of security agreement / documents & creation of mortgage by way of deposit of the title deeds Simple mortgage are also furnished hereunder. As the operation and conduct of the financial assistance/credit facilities have become irregular, the debt has been classified as Non Performing Asset in accordance with the directives / guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India consequent to the default committed by the borrower in repayment of the principal debt and interest thereon. As the demand notice dated as mentioned below sent by register post AD calling upon you, To pay the outstanding amount within 60 days from the date of the notice failing which the Bank will proceed against the bellow mentioned property under the Act was unserved / not acknowledged, this notice is now issued.

BYADARAHALLI BRANCH

(1).Name of the Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor: 1. Smt.Uma Devi w/o Late Siddappa K N 2. Sri.Prasanna s/o Late Siddappa K N Both are R/at No.59, Gangondanahalli Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bengaluru-560073. **3. Sri.Naganna M C** s/o Chikkachannappa (Guarantor), R/at No.245, 8th cross, Shivapura, Peenya Post, Bengaluru-560058.
Liability: Rs.6,93,184/- (Rupees Six Lakh Ninetythree Thousand One Hundred Eighty Four only) as on **13.10.2021** and interest from **14.10.2021** and incidental expenses and cost.
NPA Date: 20.02.2020 **Demand Notice Date: 18.10.2021**
Description of Property: All that part and parcel of the property having Site No.59, Assessment No.59/2, **Property Measuring: E to W:** 40 Ft, **N to S :** 30 Ft totally 1200 Sq Ft, Situated at Gangondanahalli Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk now comes under the jurisdiction of Madavara Gramapanchayath. **Bounded by East:** Site No.38, **West :** Road, **North :** Site No.60, **South:** Site No.58. Property is held in the name of **Smt.Uma Devi w/o Late Siddappa K N**.

CHIKKABASTHI BRANCH

(2).Name of the Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor: 1.Sri.Prashanth G S s/o Sadashiva G N 2).Smt.Shwetha w/o Prashanth G S, Both are R/at No.51, MIG-B, 2nd floor, Block No.34, Sl.No.611, Valagerahalli, Kengeri 3rd stage, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk - 560060. **3. Sri.Hanumegowda S K s/o Kempaiah C (Guarantor)** R/at No.721/48, St.Pouls School Road, Pattegarapalya, Bengaluru - 560040 .
Balance Outstanding: Rs.12,05,664/- (Rupees Twelve lakh five thousand six hundred and sixty four only) as on 07.01.2022 and interest from 08.01.2022 and incidental expenses and cost.
NPA Date: 07.01.2022 **Demand Notice Date: 18.01.2022**
Description of Property: 1a.SCHEDULE A PROPERTY: All the part and parcel of the property having Layout formed by the Karnataka Housing Board, **Measuring: E to W:** 34.5 mtrs, **N to S :** 17.25 mtrs, Totally measuring 592.12 Sq Mtrs with 1 in 32 undivided interest, Situated at Valagerahalli/Kengeri 3rd stage, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, **Property Bounded By: East:** Village Road, **West :** Building No.33, **North :** Building No.35 & Open space, **South:** Open space.
1b.SCHEDULE B PROPERTY: All the part and parcel of the property having Residential apartment/Flat/Tenement bearing House No.51 in MIG-B in Second Floor, Block No.34 consisting 32 residential tenements in the multistoried building constructed on the property described in the schedule A property & the tenement house no.51, MIG-B, second floor, Sl.No.611, property No.B-34/SF.51, Situated at Valagerahalli/Kengeri 3rd stage, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, **Bounded by: East:** Tenement No.54 MIG-B, **West :** Tenement No.52 MIG-B, **North :** Building passage, South: Open space.
2a.SCHEDULE A PROPERTY: All the part and parcel of the property having Layout formed by the Karnataka Housing Board, **Property Measuring: E to W:** 34.5 mtrs, **N to S :** 17.25 mtrs, Totally measuring 592.12 Sq Mtrs with 1 in 32 undivided interest, Situated at Valagerahalli/Kengeri 3rd stage, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk **Bounded By: East:** Village Road, **West :** Building No.33, **North :** Building No.35 & Open space, **South:** Open space.
2b.SCHEDULE B PROPERTY: All the part and parcel of the property having Residential apartment/Flat/Tenement bearing House No.52 in MIG-B in Second Floor, Block No.34 consisting 32 residential tenements in the multistoried building constructed on the property described in the schedule A property & the tenement house no.52, MIG-B, second floor, Sl.No.612, property No.B-34/SF.52, Valagerahalli/Kengeri 3rd stage, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, **Bounded By: East:** Tenement No.51, MIG-B, **West :** Approach Path, **North :** Building passage ,**South:** Open space. All these properties is held in the name of **Sri.Prashanth G S s/o Sadashiva G N.**

IMMADIHALLY BRANCH

(3).Name of the Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor: 1.Sri.Nagesh N s/o N.Srinivas, (Borrower and Mortgagor) 2.Sri.N.Srinivas s/o Late Nagappa, (Borrower and Mortgagor) 3) Sri.Anil Kumar s/o N.Srinivas, (Mortgagor) 4. Smt.Deepa w/o N.Srinivas, (Mortgagor). All are R/at No.437, Immadihalli, Whitefield, Bengaluru - 560066 **5. Sri. Narasimhamurthy s/o Late K.Byrappa (Guarantor) R/at Immadihalli, Whitefield, Bengaluru - 560066.**
Balance Outstanding: Rs.6,37,137/- (Rupees Six Lakh Thirty Seven Thousand One Hundred & Thirty Seven only) as on 26.11.2021 and interest from 18.11.2021 and incidental expenses and cost.
NPA Date: 15.11.2021 **Demand Notice Date: 08.12.2021**
Description of Property: All that part and parcel of Property bearing Sl.No.691, Site No.616/33/1, Khatha No.691, **Measuring: E to W :** 57 Ft, **N to S :** 54 Ft, Situated at Hagadur Dhakale, Immadihalli, K R Puram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, **Bounded By: East:** Gurubasanna, **West:** Road & Krishnamurthy, **North:** Siddappa, **South:** Narayanappa. Property is held in the name of **Sri.N.Srinivas s/o Late Nagappa.**

MALLATHAHALLI BRANCH

(4).Name of the Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor: 1.Sri.Harish Kumar K K s/o Krishnegowda K S R/at No.11, 2ND floor, 7th main, Srikanteshwara Layout, Kengeri Satellite Town, Bengaluru - 560060. **2. Sri.Jagadeesh Kumar s/o Krishnegowda K S (Guarantor)** R/at No.79, 14th A cross, T.G.Layout, Bengaluru - 560061.
Balance Outstanding: Rs.2,72,629 /- (Rupees Two lakh Seventy Two thousand Six hundred and twenty nine only) as on 04.12.2021 and interest from 05.12.2021 and incidental expenses and cost.
NPA Date: 03.12.2021 **Demand Notice Date: 23.12.2021**
Description of Property: All that part and parcel of property bearing Site No.303 formed in Upkar Green Valley,comprising of Sy.No.42/1, Khatha No.126/303, E-Khatha No.150300701100200470, **Property Measuring: E to W:** 12.345 mtrs, **N to S :** 6.835 mtrs, Situated at Konegowdanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, **Bounded By: East:** Road, **West :** Site No.325, **North :** Site No.304, **South:** Private Property. Property is held in the name of **Sri.Harish Kumar K K s/o Krishnegowda K S**

MUGABALA BRANCH

(5).Name of the Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor: 1.Sri. Channarayappa s/o Seerappa, (Borrower and Mortgagor) 2.Sri.Byregowda s/o Channarayappa (Mortgagor) Both are residing at: Chikkanahalli Village, Nandagudi Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District – 562114, **3. Sri. Subbanna s/o Chikkanna (Guarantor)** R/at Gadigenahalli, Kembliganahalli post, Hoskote Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District – 562114.
Balance Outstanding: Rs.5,04,321/- (Rupees Five Lakh Four Thousand Three hundred twenty one only) as on **30.11.2021**and interest from **01.12.2021** and incidental expenses and cost.
NPA Date: 17.12.2020 **Demand Notice Date: 08.12.2021**
Description of Property: All that part and parcel of properties having **1.**Sy.No.70/1, Measuring 1 Acres 11 Guntas, Situated at Chikkanahalli Village, Nandagudi Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, **Bounded By: East:** Puttegowda, **West:** Nyanappa, **North:** Road, **South:** Road.
2.Site No.6, Sl.No.41/6, Property No.6, Measuring: E to W : 30 Ft, N to S : 40 Ft, Situated at Chikkanahalli Village, Nandagudi Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, **Bounded By: East:** Chikkanahalli Village vacant site, **West:** Road, **North:** Road, **South:** Subbarayappa's site.
3.Sy.No.69/1, Measuring 0.18 1/2 Guntas,Situated at Chikkanahalli Village, Nandagudi Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, **Bounded By: East:** Nyanappa, **West:** Church, **North:** Munishamappa, **South:** Road.
4.Sy.No.102/1,Measuring 0.15 Guntas, Situated at Yalachahalli Village, Hoskote Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, **Bounded by: East:** Krishnappa, **West:** Ramanna, **North:** Pillappa, **South:** Nanjappa. All these properties are held in the names of **Sri.Channarayappa s/o Seerappa & Sri.Byregowda s/o Channarayappa.**

TEPPADA BEGUR BRANCH,

(6).Name of the Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor: 1.Smt.Shilpa M.A. w/o Ashok Kumar, R/at No.611, 5th main, 13th cross, M.C.Layout, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru – 560040. **2. Sri.Narasimhaiah s/o Ganganna (Guarantor)** R/at No.73, 14th main, Muneshwara Block, Bengaluru South – 560026.
Balance Outstanding: Rs.4,04,454/- (Rupees Four lakh Four thousand Four hundred & Fifty Four only) as on 31.12.2021 and interest from 01.01.2022 and incidental expenses and cost.
NPA Date: 24.12.2021 **Demand Notice Date: 13.01.2022**
Description of Property: All that part and parcel of property having Khatha No.183/43, Site No.183/43 formed out of Lands in Sy.No.15/2A, 2B & 2C, **Property Measuring E to W:** 30 Ft, **N to S :** 40 Ft, Situated at Marohalli, Kasaba Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, **Bounded By: East:** Road, **West :** Site No.42, **North :** Road, **South:** Site No.44. Property is held in the name of **Smt.Shilpa M.A. w/o Ashok Kumar**.,

TEPPADA BEGUR BRANCH,

(7).Name of the Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor: 1. Sri.Ganganna s/o Late Muniramaiah, 2. Sri.G.Nagaraju s/o Ganganna, Both are R/at Marohalli, T.Begur post, Nelamangala, Bengaluru- 562120, **3. Sri.Kiran Kumar s/o Gangappa (Guarantor)** R/at Marohalli, T.Begur post, Nelamangala, Bengaluru- 562120.
Balance Outstanding: Rs.5,87,014/- (Rupees Five lakh Eighty Seven thousand & Fourteen only) as on 30.10.2021 and interest from 01.11.2021 and incidental expenses and cost.
NPA Date: 28.10.2021 **Demand Notice Date: 19.11.2021**
Description of Property: All that part and parcel of property bearing Residential Site having Old Khatha No.1207/28/3 & E-Khatha No.150300700500501598, **Property Measuring E to W:** 30 Ft, **N to S :** 40 Ft, Situated at Marenahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, **Bounded By: East:** Site No.4, **West :** Road, **North :** Road, **South:** Ramakrishnaiah's property. Property is held in the name of **Sri.Ganganna s/o Late Muniramaiah.**

If you fail to repay the aforesaid sum with interest and incidental expenses within 60 days from the date of this notice, Bank will exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub section (4) of the Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act. You are also put on notice that in terms of sub section 13 of section 13. you shall not transfer by sale, lease or otherwise the said secured assets detailed above without obtaining written consent of the Bank. This notice is without prejudice to the Bank rights to initiate such other action or legal proceedings as it deem necessary under any other applicable provisions of law.

Date: 14.03.2022,
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised Officer,
Karnataka Gramin Bank

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.

Corporate Office : 802, Natraj By Rustomjee, Western Express Highway, Sir M.V. Road, Andheri East, Mumbai - 400069, Maharashtra.
Kengeri Branch : Site No 1107,2nd Floor, 1st Main Road, Kengeri Satellite Town, Opposite to Dominos, Kengeri - 560060, (Karnataka).
KR Puram Branch : Office No. 1218, 2nd Floor, Pooja Complex, Old Madras Road, K R Puram, Bangalore - 560036, (KA).
Yelahanka Branch : #293, 2nd Floor, Smk Complex, Ist Main Road, Chikkabommasandra Circle, Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore-560064,(KA).
Malleshwaram Branch : No.16/12 , Nagarathna Nilaya , 1St Floor 1St A Cross , 2nd Main , 150 Feet Ring Road, Nandhini Layout 2nd Block, Opposite to RajKumar Smarak / Nr Kanteerva studio, Bangalore :- 560096, (KA).

APPENDIX IV POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Demand Notice(s) issued by the Authorised Officer of the company to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub –section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of AHFL for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.

Sl No.	Name of the Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower	Description of Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Date of Possession
1	**(Appl No.V0136157) Kengeri Branch Deelipkumar S** (Borrower) **Shital Kambale** (Co-Borrower)	Residential Apartment bearing Flat No.002 (North Facing), Ground Floor, "R.S HAPPY HOMES" Apartment, Site No.7, Old Khatha No.88/23/1,22/2, then Khatha No.140/22/2/07, New Khatha No.142/22/2/07, formed in converted Sy No.22/2, Gollahalli Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District - 560100, Karnataka and Bounded on : **East by :** Flat No.001, **West By :** Flat No.003, **North By :** Road and **South By :** Flat No.006.	**10-12-2019 ₹ 27,53,805.00 (Rupees Twenty Seven Lakhs Fifty Three Thousand Eight Hundred Five Only.)**	**09-03-2022**
2	**(Appl No.V0135948 and V0135958) Kengeri Branch Thara B T** (Borrower) **Maruthi P** (Co-Borrower)	Site No.103, Srigandada Kavalu Village Khata No 71, Assessment No.71, Dasarahalli Town Municipal Khata No.972, 5th Main, Srigandada Kavalu Village, Annapoorneshwari Nagar, Laggere, Yeshavantapur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluka, Bangalore - 560058, Karnataka and Bounded on : **East by :** Site No.87, **West By :** Road, **North By :** Site No.104 and **South By** : Site No.102.	**10-12-2021 ₹ 21,28,425.00 (Rupees Twenty One Lakhs Twenty Eight Thousand Four Hundred Twenty Five Only.) and ₹ 10,56,163.00 (Rupees Ten Lakhs Fifty Six Thousand One Hundred Sixty Three Only.)**	**08-03-2022**
3	**(Appl No.00187310) KR Puram Branch Pushpa R** (Borrower) **Anthonyammal G** (Co-Borrower)	Site No.10, Khata No.29/3/52, Property No.53, Devasandra Village, K. R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluka, Bengaluru - 560036, Karnataka. and Bounded on : **East by :** Site No.1, **West By :** Road, **North By :** Private Property and **South By :** Site No.9.	**10-12-2021 ₹ 20,72,111.00 (Rupees Twenty Lakhs Seventy Two Thousand One Hundred Eleven Only.)**	**08-03-2022**
4	**(Appl No.00456497) Yelahanka Branch Syed Ismail** (Borrower) **Lieyakath Ali** (Co-Borrower)	Southern Portion Of Site No.1, V P Khata No.12/2, Sarakki Village, Uttarhalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluka, now comes under purview of BBMP Ward No.187, New Municipal No.1, 3Rd Cross, Ayodyanagar, Sarakki Lake to Sarakki Grama Main Road, 5th Phase, J P Nagar, Bengaluru - 560002, Karnataka. and Bounded on : **East by :** Road, **West By :** Khader Bhai Property, **North By :** Remaining portion sold to Syed Arif Ulla and Syed Rahamath Ulla and **South By :** Ramaswamys Lands.	**07-10-2021 ₹ 6,68,672.00 (Rupees Six Lakhs Sixty Eight Thousand Six Hundred Seventy Two Only.)**	**08-03-2022**
5	**(Appl No.V0102710 and 00225992) Malleshwaram Branch Kumar Raju** (Borrower) **Rukmini Raju** (Co-Borrower)	Flat No.103, CMC No.73/43/48, First Floor, G R V Residency, Sy. No.43/4P, Kodigehalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bengaluru - 560092, Karnataka and Bounded on : **East by :** Flat No.104 (Opposite), **West By :** Private Property, **North By :** Flat No.102 and **South By :** Road.	**15-04-2021 ₹ 12,76,092.00 (Rupees Twelve Lakhs Seventy Six Thousand Ninety Two Only.) and ₹ 4,53,294.00 (Rupees Four Lakhs Fifty Three Thousand Two Hundred Ninety Four Only)**	**09-03-2022**
6	**(Appl No.00288106) Yelahanka Branch Mohammed Hussain F A** (Borrower) **Sulthana Anjum** (Co-Borrower) **Mohammed Sabir Ahmed** (Guarantor)	Eastern portion of Site No.49 and Western portion of Site No.48, Khatha No.3454/64/4, Assessment No.61/4, Thanisandra Village, Bharathi Nagar, K R Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluka, Bengaluru - 560077, Karnataka and Bounded on : **East by :** Remaining Eastern portion of same Site No.48, **West By :** Remaining portion of same Site No.49, **North By :** Site No.36 & 37 and **South By :** Road.	**15-04-2021 ₹ 16,88,514.00 (Rupees Sixteen Lakhs Eighty Eight Thousand Five Hundred Fourteen Only.)**	**09-03-2022**
7	**(Appl No.00391080) Malleshwaram Branch Suresh A G** (Borrower) **Ananya M** (Co-Borrower)	Site No.18, Khatha No.287/252/18, B-Sector, Sky View Smart Enclave, Chagalatti Village, Jala Hobli, Bangalore North Taluka, Bengaluru - 560064, Karnataka and Bounded on : **East by :** Site No.11, **West By :** 30 Feet Road, **North By :** Site No.19 and **South By :** Site No.12.	**15-04-2021 ₹ 11,21,113.00 (Rupees Eleven Lakhs Twenty One Thousand One Hundred Thirteen Only.)**	**09-03-2022**

Place : Kengeri, KR Puram, Yelahanka and Malleshwaram
Date : 14.03.2022

Authorised Officer
Aadhar Housing Finance Limited

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS City

Bengaluru Express

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14.03.2022
MONDAY

DAY'S DIARY

Cyclone Idai

Cyclone Idai made landfall near Beira city, Mozambique, as a Category 2 storm. It led to flash floods and massive destruction of life, crops and property

GETTING STRONG

Cyclone Idai developed between Mozambique and Madagascar. Often, storms that develop there don't strengthen much, but Cyclone Idai was fed by warm water temperatures

THE SECOND CYCLONE

Less than six weeks later, Cyclone Kenneth hit northern Mozambique. It was the first time in history that two strong tropical cyclones struck the country in the same season

DESTRUCTION

The two storms brought widespread flooding and the destruction of almost 7,80,000 hectares of agriculture crops, and displaced many families

Priya Anand on working with Appu

PG 4

COUPLE OF FRIENDS

Celebrities KL Rahul and Athiya Shetty, who were in the city recently, catch up with *CE* on cricket, cinema and their careers

ANILA KURIAN

It was all about cricket and celebrities in the weekend that went by. In addition to the Test match and announcement of the RCB captain for IPL, celebrity cricketer KL Rahul and Bollywood actor Athiya Shetty were also in the city recently to launch the Puma store at Orion Mall at Brigade Gateway.

Amidst the happy chaos, *CE* caught up with the celebs who were basking in the fandom. "The fan craze in Bengaluru is overwhelming. I had forgotten what the noise and energy had felt like. Now that things are coming back to normal, I am thrilled to be here and soak it all in. It's funny how the last two years of the pandemic has made everyone socially awkward," says the Lucknow Super Giants captain, who is gearing up for IPL 2022.

Agrees Shetty. "Hearing people cheer for Rahul makes me feel so grateful," says Shetty, who was last seen in comedy-drama *Motichoor Chaknachoor*, directed by Debamitra Biswal.

Being a Bengaluru boy, Rahul is looking forward to spending some time with his family before heading into the IPL bubble. "Bengaluru is home for me. I have visited in the last two years but because of the Covid-19 fear, I didn't leave home much," he says. Talking about his favourite hangout spots in the city, he says, "It would be a lie if I tell you I don't like hanging out at Toit. I also love some of the restaurants on Lavelle Road, like Sanchez and Smoke House Deli. These were places we visited after practice. Apart from that, The Only Place on Museum Road is one of my favourites."

Shetty's fondest memory of visiting the city was heading to a toy store whenever she came here to visit family. "I must have been five or six years old and there was a store called Toy Kingdom. I remember that being one of the first stops every time I visited," she laughs, adding that she loves the vibe of the city. "Mumbai is very different. Everything is fast-paced there. Bengaluru, on the other hand, is easy-going and it's a place I like to come for a slow life."

The couple, who has openly proclaimed their love for each other on social media, has been working together with brands for a while now. So what's it like to work with each other? Shetty says, "Rahul is very easygoing. Given his sports background, he's disciplined, both in his professional and personal life. I've definitely learnt to be calm, thanks to him. Even when there's a whirlwind going on in his head, he's very composed — I'm pretty envious of that!"

Adding to it, Rahul says laughing, "We are very similar yet different in a lot of ways but I love that she's just herself, no matter what. I'm learning how to be just me, be more expressive and open. I'm spontaneous but I also hold back. Athiya encourages me to speak up. Then again, she's more fun than me. I can be boring and lazy."

PIC: NAGARAJA GADEKAL

We are very similar yet different in a lot of ways but I love that Athiya is just herself, no matter what. I'm learning how to be just me, be more expressive and open

KL Rahul, cricketer

Rahul is very easygoing. Given his sports background, he's very disciplined, both in his professional and personal life. I've definitely learnt to be calm, thanks to him. Even when there's a whirlwind going on in his head, he's very composed — I'm envious of that!

Athiya Shetty, actor

FUNDAY, SUNDAY

On a bright Sunday, Bengalureans headed to the Sunday Soul Sante's Bohemian Rhapsody edition at Jayamahal Palace. It was fun, food and laughter with lots of live music for visitors at the Sante JASHISHKRISHNA HP

GRUB HUB

Debolina Ray, a Bengaluru-based food & travel blogger who runs a blog called She Knows Grub, dishes out fun food-related trivia in this weekly series. So, answer these three questions and find out how much of a foodie you are

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Food quiz'**

The correct answers and names of the first three respondents with right answers will be featured in *CE*. The first prize winner this week will win a voucher worth ₹2,000 from The Greedy Man Pizzeria

THE RIGHT ANSWERS

1) Thandai 2) Gujiya, Kadubu 3) Kulfi

FIRST 3 TO GET IT RIGHT

1) Pruthvi H 2) Sindhuja T 3) Harsha

***Conditions apply**

CITY READ

Mobile and Accessories trade exhibition organised in Bengaluru

MAG World Expo, a trade exhibition for Mobiles, Accessories, and Gadgets was organised recently at KTPO exhibition Centre, Whitefield. The event was conceptualised and presented by Virgo Communications & Exhibitions to provide a platform for leading Indian brands in the mobile accessory space to showcase their latest products and technologies to the distributor and retailer communities. The expo aimed to connect leading mobile accessories brands with potential distributors, wholesalers, and retailers from South India.

Resham Utsav to exhibit silk apparels

Ahead of Ugadi, Vastralaya, an organisation that hosts exhibition on looms and weaves, will be organising Resham Utsav in Bengaluru. On display will be a wide range of silk fabrics like handlooms, tussar silk, yerri, mulbari, woven by weavers across the country. The exhibition is on till March 14 at White Petals, Vijaynagar.

WATCH LIST

The Departed (English)

Streaming: Netflix

Fan of Martin Scorsese and Leonardo DiCaprio combo? Check out *The Departed*. Set in Boston, the chief of Irish Mob, Frank Costello plants Colin Sullivan as a mole within the Massachusetts State Police. Simultaneously, the police assign undercover state trooper Billy Costigan to infiltrate Costello's crew. When both sides realise the situation and the truth stands exposed, Sullivan and Costigan each attempt to discover the other's identity before they are found out.

Cast: Leonardo DiCaprio, Matt Damon, Jack Nicholson

No Time to Die (English)

Streaming: Amazon Prime Video

For all the Bond fans out there, here's the latest action-thriller from the Bond collection. James Bond is enjoying a tranquil and leisure life in Jamaica after leaving active service. However, his peace is short-lived as his old CIA friend, Felix Leiter, shows up with a new mission. The mission is to rescue a kidnapped scientist who turns out to be far more treacherous and dangerous than expected. This leads to Bond on the trail of a mysterious villain who's armed with a threatening new technology.

Cast: Daniel Craig, Lashana Lynch, Rami Malek

Worst Roommate Ever (English)

Streaming: Netflix

The new five-part documentary series *Worst Roommate Ever* highlights four harrowing tales of seemingly harmless roommates turning into real-life nightmares for their unsuspecting victims when their hostil and sometimes violent intentions are revealed. These unsettling true stories chronicle the masked menace that can be lurking right down the hall. From violent con artists to stone-cold killers, here is a journey through some of the bloodthirsty experiences one could ever imagine.

MONKEY BUSINESS PAYS OFF

Saumyananda Sahi is the only cinematographer from B'luru to make it to BAFTA's list of 'Breakthrough India Participants for 2022' for his film that captures the monkey menace in New Delhi

MONIKA MONALISA

SAUMYANANDA Sahi was busy shooting for his debut directorial movie in the scenic Northeast states of India, when he got the news that is possibly one of his biggest career milestones so far. Sahi made it to the list of 'Breakthrough India Participants for 2022' announced by British Academy Film and Television Award (BAFTA).

The 35-year-old was selected for his movie *Eeb Allay Ooo!* and is the only cinematographer to make it to the list. The winners were selected by a cross-industry global jury of industry experts, including Apurva Asrani, Anupam Kher, AR Rahman, Ratna Pathak Shah and Shonali Bose. The other Bengalurean who has made it to the list is Sumukhi Suresh for her show *Pushpavalli*.

Sahi, who prefers being behind the camera, says these bring attention to people who work behind the spotlight. "For instance, after Resul Pookutty won the Oscars, there were many people who wanted to be sound designers. It has also come at a special moment in my life when I am working on my debut film as director. This is a huge motivation for me to continue my work in cinematography. I am using this support to explore the work as writer-director," says Sahi.

Saumyananda Sahi

Eeb Allay Ooo! is the story of a young migrant who battles scores of monkeys in the heart of New Delhi as a contractual monkey repeller. As this comedy-drama revolves around stray monkeys, Sahi, who hails from Silvepura village in Bengaluru rural, recalls the biggest challenge faced while shooting the movie — uncertainty. "The crew was small and Prateek (Vats) and Shubham, the directors and writers, were open to improvisation. We had to document the monkeys as per the script and then work backwards to put things together. The background in the documentary really helped," recalls Sahi.

A scene from the film

The movie was first screened in Miami, in 2019, and later went on to be screened at festivals in Berlin. It was released in Indian theatres later and is now available on Netflix.

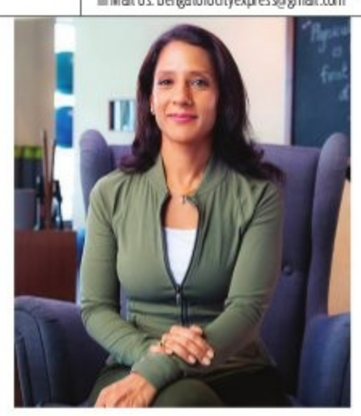
From working on mostly independent films and non-fiction in the past 10 years, Sahi says that commercial cinema is mostly where the money is. However, he prefers independent cinema. "Somehow, because I was busy with these sort of films, I haven't been able to explore anything else," says Sahi, who has worked in two Tamil and two Kannada films. He has also shot for the critically-acclaimed Kannada movie *Tithi*. Right now, his next project is with director Prashant Nair, where he will be co-directing *Made in Heaven*, which is set to be released mid-year on Netflix.

WILD WITH MILLETS

In a 30-day series, learn everything you need to know about millets, its benefits and recipes. A WhatsApp group will be formed for hand-holding at every point.
When: March 28
Details: insider.in

THAT'S WACK

Learn how to dance to *Piyu Bole* from *Parineeta* with Abhilasha Jain as she takes "Waacking" classes online. This class is good for both beginner and advanced-level dancers. **When:** Ongoing **Details:** insider.in



STRETCH RIGHT

In this unluclass, celebrity fitness trainer Radhika Karle teaches the right way to exercise and focus on the fundamentals of Pilates. She also talks about different diets, types of Pilates, breathing and how one can start their own fitness studio.
When: Till March 27
Details: bookmyshow.com

SONIC WORLD

Prepare to be transported onto a sonic expedition of heavy duty psychedelic tunes with the Alice - D sound architect, Technical Hitch. Playing alongside is producer Braindrop. **When:** March 20 **Where:** Club XU, The Leela Palace

PARTY WITH KSHMR AT SUNBURN HOLI EDITION AT PHOENIX MARKETCITY | WHEN: MARCH 19, 5 PM | DETAILS: BOOKMYSHOW.COM

Demystifying Coffee

Want a brewer to make your own coffee and don't know where to start? Demystifying Coffee: Brewing with a French Press is one of the parts of the educative series of Demystifying coffee. Register now to learn more. **When:** March 25 **Details:** insider.in

Artist Collective

Rubaru is the celebration of a reunion of artists and audience. Through an interactive format inter-woven with soulful music, this show will see dance and poetry by Vidhya Gopal, Shinjita Roy, Alok Ranjan Srivastava and Tamal Pandey.
When: March 18, 7.30 pm
Details: BLR Creative Circus, Yeshwantpur

Holi Special Brunch

From a Turkish ice cream counter, a milkshake station offering Paan shake, Khajoor and Anjeer Lassi, the traditional Thandai to a Punjabi counter serving Atta Chicken, Bedmi Puri, a counter serving Kuti Mirch ka Murga Paratha, Shahi Pitod, Awadhi Vegetarian Biryani, JW Marriott Bangalore has a special Holi Brunch. **When:** March 20 **For reservation,** call 88844 94037

Film Club

Want to discuss movies with those who share a common interest? Head to Lahe Lahe, Indiranagar, share why you liked the movie and interact with fellow movie buffs.
When: March 19
Details: bookmyshow.com

Band Music

Comprising Sujay Harthi, Tony Das, Praveen Biligiri, Willy Demoz and Siddhart Kamath, band Peepal Tree will be performing at Windmills Craftworks.
When: March 18-19
Details: bookmyshow.com

Finance talk

Millennium Mams' Bangalore Chapter is discussing the Ukraine War and its effects on investments with **Bishnu Dhanuka**. Preeti Agarwal will also be discussing about the Indian Automobile Industry.
When: March 14 **Where:** The Taj West End

QUICK FIX

What's cooking

IN YOUR KITCHEN?
We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at cityexpresschn@gmail.com.

CHICKEN KEEMA SANDWICH

INGREDIENTS

- **Chicken mince** (keema): 150 g, **Oil:** 1 tbsp
- **Coriander powder:** 1 tsp, **Chilli powder:** 1 tsp
- **Garam masala:** 1 tsp
- **Onion** (finely chopped): 1 cup, **Cheese slice:** 3
- **Chilli sauce:** 1 tbsp

METHOD

- Saute the onions in oil till they turn pale. Add the keema and the garam masala, coriander and chilli powder.
- Cook till the raw smell goes and keema is almost cooked. Now, add the chilli sauce and some water. Cook till the water has reduced completely.
- Top a slice of toasted bread with this mixture and a slice of cheese.
- Add another slice of bread over it and serve.

–Laila Mathew, Gurugram

SOUND BOARD

THIS AMERICAN LIFE
A weekly public radio program and podcast. Each week we choose a theme and put together different kinds of stories on that theme.
- **On: Apple Podcasts**

99% INVISIBLE
Design is everywhere in our lives, perhaps most importantly in the places where we've just stopped noticing. 99% Invisible is a weekly exploration of the process and power of design and architecture.
- **On: Spotify**

YOU'RE WRONG ABOUT
Sarah is a journalist obsessed with the past. Every week she reconsiders a person or event that's been miscast in the public imagination.
- **On: Apple Podcasts**

STUFF YOU SHOULD KNOW
If you've ever wanted to know about champagne, satanism, the Stonewall Uprising, chaos theory, LSD, El Nino, true crime and Rosa Parks, then look no further. Josh and Chuck have you covered.
- **On: Apple Podcasts**

HOW DID THIS GET MADE?
Have you ever seen a movie so bad that it's amazing? Paul Scheer, June Diane Raphael and Jason Mantzoukas want to hear about it!
- **On: Apple Podcasts**

A SHOW ABOUT CRYPTO WITH ROHAN JOSHI
A show where comedian Rohan sits down with an expert to explain, in the simplest of ways, what cryptocurrency is and how it all works. Each week, Rohan embarks on a mission to understand for himself what the different aspects of cryptocurrencies are, and how they all come together.
- **On: Google Podcasts**

POPULAR ON YOUTUBE

1971: BEYOND BORDERS
After saving a Pakistani commander's life during a UN mission, Colonel Mahadevan reveals that his father Major Sahadevan had killed the commander's father during the 1971 India-Pakistan War.
- Cast: Mohanlal, Allu Sirish, Sudheer Karamana, Priyanka Agarwal

SEETHARAMA KALYANA
Arya, a righteous man, falls in love with a small-town woman named Geetha, unaware of the obstacles that lie ahead for both of them.
- Cast: Nikhil Gowda, Girija Lokesh, Adithya, P Ravi Shankar

ARJUN
Police officer Arjun has strong moral values and lets criminals off with a warning. But he is in a fix when he learns that his father is paying petty criminals to help him catch big criminals.
- Cast: Darshan Thoogudeepa, Sanjjanaa Galrani, Meera Chopra, Anant Nag

AA DRUSHYA
Surya Tejas, a retired policeman, narrates the details of a case that he investigated years ago to a former colleague's son. In the process, he reveals what really happened on the day of the crime.
- Cast: Chaitra Achar, Arjun Gowda, V Ravichandran, Yash Shetty

BANGARA S/O BANGARADA MANUSHYA
When Shivraj, a wealthy businessman living in London, learns how his father led an agricultural revolution to save the farmers, he returns to India to help them again.
- Cast: Shiva Rajkumar, Sharath Lohitashwa, Sadhu Kokila, Vidhya

WHAT'S ON TED TALKS

1 BRING ON THE FEMALE SUPERHEROES! BY CHRISTOPHER BELL
Why is it so hard to find female superhero merchandise? In this passionate, sparkling talk, media studies scholar (and father of a Star Wars-obsessed daughter) Christopher Bell addresses the alarming lack of female superheroes in the toys and products marketed to kids – and what it means for how we teach them about the world.

2 WHY THE PASSPORT NEEDS AN UPGRADE BY KAROLI HINDRIKS
Looking to Estonia's technology-driven government for inspiration, entrepreneur Karoli Hindriks envisions a world where immigration is no longer hindered by bureaucracy and needless repetition. Travel with her to a future beyond borders.

3 THE ANCIENT, EARTH-FRIENDLY WISDOM OF MONGOLIAN NOMADS BY KHULAN BATKHUYAG
There's a lot we can learn from Mongolian nomads about how to survive in the years to come, says environmental activist Khulan Batkhuyag. Taking us on a journey through the country's stunning rural landscape, she shows how they have survived in remote areas by virtue of some truly incredible, earth-friendly, zero-waste innovations.

4 LIFE-ALTERING QUESTIONS ABOUT THE END OF THE UNIVERSE BY KATIE MACK
Cosmologist and TED Fellow Katie Mack delves into everything from the Big Bang theory to what we see at the edge of the observable universe to a few ways the cosmos might end. Stay tuned to hear Mack recite an original poem on the wonder and marvel of existence.

5 ONLINE LEARNING COULD CHANGE ACADEMIA – FOR GOOD BY TYLER DEWITT
Higher education remains rooted in rigid, traditional structures and tracks – and it's at risk of getting left behind in favour of expanded access, greater flexibility and tailored learning. Educator Tyler DeWitt explains how innovations in digital content and virtual reality are ushering in the future of learning.

FIT BIT

SUPTA PARIVRTTA GARUDASANA

(RECLINING EAGLE SPINAL TWIST POSE)

This is a beginner level yoga pose that is performed in supine position. It involves a twist and stretch. It can be part of the cooling down sequence for deep hip opening yoga sequence or as part of the recovery sequence for runners. Supine yoga poses helps students understand their body better and takes them one step at a time towards flexibility and strength. It is not as challenging as the full version of Garudasana, but with practise, the full version can be easy and smooth. Spiritually, it is associated with Swadisthana (Sacral) Chakra and Muladhara (Root) Chakra.

STEPS

- Lie down on your back stretching the legs out in Savasana (Corpse Pose) for about 4-6 breaths.
- Inhale and bend the left leg, placing foot on the floor, and exhale to take the left thigh towards the right side over the right thigh, placing it on the floor in an internal rotation of the left hip. Inhale, take the left foot and place it below the right leg then exhale and lock the toes of the left foot around the right shin.
- With arms stretched out at shoulder level, exhale and turn towards the left side. Stay in this twist for about 4-6 breaths.
- Exhale, twist the left hip deeper inwards and stretch the left arm more outwards as you twist the neck towards the left side.
- Feel the stretch of the left gluteus, sides of the left abdomen and lower back, left upper shoulders, neck, and some part of the right inner thighs.
- To release, bring the neck back, release the left thigh and extend the left leg and go back to Savasana. Repeat on the opposite side.
- Release and relax, and if required in the next round, hold the pose longer. Relax completely in Savasana.

BENEFITS

- Preparatory pose for Supta Matsyendrasana I. It helps with the gradual twisting of the hips, moving in an internal rotation.
- Cools the overstretched lower back, the hips, the shoulders, and the leg muscles.
- Opens the deeper muscles and tissues like the fascia, releasing the deeper embedded tensions.
- Improves blood circulation in the legs moving upwards towards the hips.
- Stimulates the nervous system, releasing tensions.
- Stretches the sides of the abdominal area.
- Helps to support the spine, making it flexible and strong.
- Reduces back pain and keeps the sciatic nerve active.

LIMITATIONS

If you have severe arthritis, tennis elbow, plantar fasciitis, vertigo or frozen shoulders, pain, injury or weakness in knees, elbows, ankles, shoulders, wrists, avoid this.

By N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science), at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

POSHTER GIRL (Bengali)
Rupali, an aspiring agricultural officer, is shocked when she comes to know that there are no females in the village and the villagers are giving up on farming.
Cast: Sonalee Kulkarni, Jitendra Joshi, Siddharth Menon
- **Available on:** Netflix

PAAVA KADHAIGAL (Tamil)
At times dark, at times disturbing, four short films explore stories of those who dare to dream and desire – and those determined to stand in their way.
Cast: Simran, Prakash Raj, Sai Pallavi, Anjali
- **Available on:** Netflix

RAAZI (Hindi)
Sehmat Khan, an undercover RAW agent, is married into a Pakistani family by her father so that she can get some valuable piece of information about the enemy.
Cast: Alia Bhatt, Vicky Kaushal, Jaideep Ahlawat, Soni Razdan
- **Available on:** Amazon Prime Video

BUNTY AUR BABLI 2 (Hindi)
Bunty and Babli are a pair of retired con-artists. After a spate of robberies with their trademark sigil start appearing across India the two are forced out of retirement to find out who has been copying them.
Cast: Sharvari Wagh, Siddhant Chaturvedi, Rani Mukerji, Saif Ali Khan
- **Available on:** Amazon Prime Video

MERSAL (Tamil)
Maaran, a doctor, is falsely arrested for the murder of his colleague, Dr Arjun Zachariah. He soon discovers that the real culprit is a lookalike who aims to expose corruption in the medical industry.
Cast: Vijay, Nithya Menen, Samantha Ruth Prabhu, Kajal Aggarwal
Available on: ZEE5

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

BRO DADDY (Malayalam)
The plot revolves around the life of a family man. Unexpected events happen in their house. The brother and father decide to take on the challenges.
Cast: Mohanlal, Prithviraj Sukumaran, Lalu Alex, Meena
- **Available on:** Disney+ Hotstar

VELLIMOONGA (Malayalam)
A middle-aged politician falls in love with a girl half his age, only to discover later that she is the daughter of the woman who he loved in his childhood.
Cast: Biju Menon, Aju Varghese, Asif Ali, Nikki Galrani
- **Available on:** Disney+ Hotstar

FOREIGN

TO ALL THE BOYS: ALWAYS AND FOREVER (English)
Senior year of high school takes centre stage as Lara Jean returns from a family trip to Korea and considers her college plans – with and without Peter.
Cast: Noah Centineo, Lana Condor, Momona Tamada, Anna Cathcart
- **Available on:** Netflix

THOSE WHO WISH ME DEAD (English)
After witnessing two assassins commit a murder, Connor, a teenager, ends up meeting Hannah, a survival expert. She takes it upon herself to protect the boy from the assassins who are now on his trail.
Cast: Angelina Jolie, Finn Little, Nicholas Hoult, Jon Bernthal
- **Available on:** Amazon Prime Video

TOKYO PROJECT (English)
Sebastian, a handsome man, travels to Tokyo for business, where he meets Claire, a beautiful woman. They get into a relationship but both have a dark past that they do not disclose.
Cast: Elisabeth Moss, Ebon Moss-Bachrach, Shusaku Kakizawa, Stacey Reiss
- **Available on:** Disney+ Hotstar

THE INVISIBLE THREAD (Italian)
A teenage son of two fathers makes a documentary about his parents but is surprised when a real-life plot twist occurs in his family.
Cast: Filippo Timi, Francesco Scianna, Francesco Gheghi, Matteo Oscar Giuggioli
- **Available on:** Netflix

SUBSCRIPTION

- **Disney+ Hotstar:** ₹ 499 per year
- **Apple TV:** ₹ 99 per month
- **Prime Video:** ₹ 129 per month
- **Netflix:** ₹ 149 per month

TUNE OF THE TIMES

During her halt in Bengaluru, Bollywood singer Dhvani Bhanushali chats with *CE* about her on going all-India tour and more

ANILA KURIAN

If you've grooved to songs like *Vaaste*, *Ishare Tere* and *Dilbar*, the name Dhvani Bhanushali isn't new to you. Starting her career in 2017 by singing the acoustic version of *Humsafar* from *Badrinath Ki Dulhania* and navigating her way through the industry with film songs and singles, Bhanushali is now on her first all-India tour. Over the weekend, she stopped by in Bengaluru to perform at Hangover Koramangala, organised by SteppinOut.

"I've done a couple of shows already in Hyderabad, Pune and Gurgaon and it was wonderful to see a packed venue with everyone grooving to the music. Even with the pandemic going on, things seem to be back to normal, just what people have been hoping for," shares Bhanushali. The tour will see her perform in different clubs, in different cities. "The last time I came to Bengaluru was in 2019 when I performed at a college. It was a powerhouse of a crowd. It was the best. I've never felt that energy anywhere else," says the Bollywood singer.

However, performing in a club comes with its own set of challenges. "For one, there's not much space to do a complete act. For the 90-minute set, it's just me and the band touring. I'm singing some of my popular songs," she explains, adding that some black coffee before getting on stage keeps her energised.

Along with the all-India tour, Bhanushali is also promoting her new song *Candy* for which she collaborated with Yuvan Shankar Raja. "It's a song about a free-spirited girl who does what she wants without worrying about societal perceptions. She doesn't want the usual 9-5 job but does things her own way. She's not exhibiting a reckless life but has a free attitude," she explains about the Hindi-Tamil song.

During the pandemic, like many other artistes, she kept herself busy by making songs. "This was a period where one could use the time and be productive or be lazy. I chose the former because we all expected things to go back to normal at some point," she says, adding that after the tour, she hopes to get working on her next song and music video.

Dhvani Bhanushali

Designer Shloka Sudhakar's latest collection Eclipse: The Dawn, a blend of pastel and pop colours, uses recycled suede fabric

SUBTLY STYLISH

EXPRESS FEATURES

THIS wedding season, if you are looking for something sophisticated, elegant and sexy at the same time, then fashion designer **Shloka Sudhakar**'s latest collection, Eclipse: The Dawn, will tick all those boxes.

The Indo-Western collection highlights the use of recycled suede fabric on lehengas and sarees. Along with that, it is also embellished with pearls, sequin and various other metal work. "This collection uses recycled suede in the form of embroideries and cut-work borders. The highlight is the use of textured colours and the soft suede," says Sudhakar, pointing out that suede is usually not a material used in Indian clothing. The colours used are pastel pinks, powder blues, ivory and pop colours like yellow, blue and orange...they give that perfect summer vibe. This collection is curated and designed for brides, bridesmaidsor any millennial.

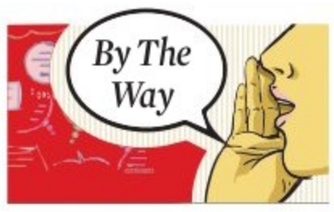
"The lehengas have various embellished patchwork in various colours and are paired with embroidered blouses for brides who are looking at wearing colourful lehengas and sarees for their mehendi and sangeet events," says the city-based designer, adding that the collection is for women who want to dress in a sharp and sophisticated manner.

This collection, which is very close to Sudhakar, is inspired by 'happiness and other emotions experienced by every woman who goes through the various cycles of life'. According to her, the softness in every piece is depicted by the use of suede fabric, and the various emotions are depicted by the use of pastel and pop colours. "The idea is to depict the cycle of emotions," she says.

BREAKING THE MONOTONY

To add an extra oomph, style the sarees with embroidered and embellished corset belts

Draping the sarees in the traditional way never goes out of fashion. But make a few more heads turn by draping it over pants/ skirts to add a western touch



PICS: ASHISHKRISHNA HP

CHEERS AND CHANTS

The RCB's Unbox event that took place over the weekend saw star players like **Faf du Plessis**, Dinesh Karthik and RCB's Mr Nags – Danish Sait – take part in the most-hyped fan event. With the India-Sri Lanka day/night Test series also taking place a few streets away at Chinnaswamy Stadium, Sait felt there was more of a crowd at RCB's event than at the stadium (sic). Posing a question in this regard to the new RCB skipper, Sait asked, "Do you realise the franchise you have signed up for?" To which Plessis replied, "I did see the fan frenzy here. The noise is electrifying."

CITY READ

School celebrates Women's Day

World of Women, a Bengaluru-based NGO celebrated International Women's Day at Our Lady of Bons Secours Girls High School, in Bengaluru. The NGO aims to educate and empower women about menstrual hygiene and management by introducing a strong revolution against the taboo surrounding it. It also teaches girls to manage their period with yoga poses, and use sanitary pads.

EV brand to tie up with tech firm

Ather Energy, a Bengaluru-based electric scooter brand, has announced its partnership with Bharat FIH, a Foxconn Technology Group company, to develop and manufacture key components for Ather scooters. The partnership aims to enhance the manufacturing ecosystem to meet the strong demand for their flagship products, the Ather 450X and the 450 Plus. Bharat FIH will offer a host of manufacturing services that include printed circuit board (PCB) assemblies for battery management systems, dashboard assembly, peripheral controlling Units, and much more.

(This economics graduate spends her leisure time preparing for the zombie apocalypse)

It has been five years to the date that Breath of the Wild released for the Nintendo Switch. And I now have fresh thoughts. First, that it is worth buying a Nintendo Switch to play just this game, and its sequel when it releases. Second, all in-game deaths are hilarious to the point of eliminating any resulting frustrations. My additional thoughts are slightly less nuanced, but do read on.

Breath of the Wild is an open-world game. It is also open in every other sense of the word. For starters, there's no big reveal that they save up for the ending. We know that we must ultimately defeat "Calamity Ganon". This villain reveal does not make the journey any easier, because the map is massive. When I say massive, I mean that exploration would take a hundred hours at the minimum for a newb completionist. Link, the protagonist best recognised when dressed in green, must complete an elaborate pilgrimage before he is close to ready to face "Calamity Ganon". This pilgrimage involves talking to many people and worshipping at shrines. Shrines in BotW are a struggle — which is surprising, considering the lack of a long entry queue. Shrines are also the only "grindy" component of the game, but are sufficiently varied enough as to not frustrate us. The puzzles in shrines get progressively more complex, but it's worth the challenge, considering how convenient it is to have several "warp spots" across the vast lands.

This brings me to my thoughts on cross-terrain traversal. Travelling is easily the worst part of most open-world videogames. I am certain that the number of rocks I have jumped over in games far exceeds the number of steps that I have walked in real life. In my first 20 hours in BotW, I was very annoyed by how difficult I found it to tame a horse. Paragliding could not help me fly upwards.

As a result, I had so much I couldn't see, and too much time spent walking. As it turns out, BotW can do no wrong. The game's clever physics allows for extremely creative modes of transportation. For example, as pointed out by a helpful YouTuber: it is possible to use the "stasis" ability to imbibe a boulder with sufficient potential energy to... make us fly with it! Provided I find a boulder, travel has no longer been an issue, so I conclude yet again, that BotW is a perfect game. I must confess that I have not yet finished the game. Legend has it that my version of Link would forever roam the lands of Hyrule, his "sheikah slate" constantly thrumming at a shrine that he cannot find.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS **CLASSIFIEDS**

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I **SHASHIDHAR BHATTARAM**, S/o: Sreedhar Bha aram , residing at 20206 Cedar CT, Lawrenceville, United States -08648 have changed my name to **SAMAR ARYAN BHAT**, vide affidavit dated 9th March 2022 before notary SHADHNA TRIKHA, Chandigarh. Henceforth I shall be called **SAMAR ARYAN BHAT**.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) AANCHAL S resident of No. 3180 Shashi Nilaya Puttadasu Road, JC Extension Teachers Colony Kanakapura Ramanagar 562117 have changed my name to **(NEW NAME) AANCHAL S PRASAD** vide affidavit Notary DEVARAJA.E., Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Sujith Shrinivas Acharya, S/o. Mr. Moorkaveri Shrinivas Acharya, aged 31 years, R/o. 1-134, Opposite Bharatha Drums & Barrels Bala, Katipalla (P), Dakshina Kannada-575030, Karnataka, India have changed my name from '**SUJITH SHRINIVAS ACHARYA**' to '**SUJITH ACHARYA**', Vide affidavit dated 14.03.2022, Sworn before Advocate & Notary A.M.Rajasekar, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SANDESH GIRIYA, S/o** Sri Suresh Kumar, aged about 31 years, R/of #64, Sannidhi road, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru-560004, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SANDESH .S** to **SANDESH GIRIYA,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **SANDESH GIRIYA** only, vide affidavit dated 09-02-2022, sworn before Advocate and Notary **PRAKASH .C** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **HARIPRASAD GOVINDA** residing at No.136, 3rd Cross 2nd Main, Balaji Layout Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore -560 097, have changed my daughter's name from **HAASINI** to **HAASINI HARIPRASAD** vide affidavit dated12/03/2022 sworn before Notary G. HEMALATHA, Bangalore - 97

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Smt. Grace Manohara W/o Thirumalai J.** declare that, my name stands changed as **Grace Manohara** and in the Passport it has been mentioned **Garce Manahara** I Continue to use my name as **Grace Manohara** in future presently residing at No.2, 2nd Main, Muniyappa Grape Garden Layout, K.R.Puram New Police Station road, K.R.Puram, Bangalore-560036 That both names belong to me only and both are one and the same. For all purpose vide affidavit **dated: 11.03.2022** before Notary of Y.V.Shankar, Dharwad.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SURESH .M GIRIYA,** S/o Sri Mohanlal, aged about 60 years, R/of #64, Sannidhi road, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru-560004, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SURESH KUMAR** to **SURESH M. GIRIYA,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **SURESH M. GIRIYA,** only, vide affidavit dated 09-02-2022, sworn before Advocate and Notary **PRAKASH .C** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, NETTAKALLAPPA S/o. Sri.Lakkappa E., aged about 36 years, residing at Near Maramma Temple, Hosadoddi, Manchanayakanahalli Post, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagar Tq. & Dist. Pin:562109, have changed my name to **NETTAKALLAPPA LAKKAPPA** Vide affidavit dated 09-03-2022 sworn before Advocate & Notary M.K. Devaki, Bengaluru

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SURESH .M GIRIYA,** S/o Sri Mohanlal, aged about 60 years, R/of #64, Sannidhi road, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru-560004, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SURESH KUMAR** to **SURESH M. GIRIYA,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **SURESH M. GIRIYA,** only, vide affidavit dated 09-02-2022, sworn before Advocate and Notary **PRAKASH .C** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I,**JAIN SAMKIT RAJESH KUMARJI** C/o **Rajesh Kumar** R/at Upper Pipe Line Road, 4th Block, Kumara Park West Sampangiram Nagar, Bengaluru-560020, have changed my name to **SAMKIT TALAWAAT** vide affidavit dated:11/3/2022 Before Notary **Vatsala** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MOHAMED NAYAZ AHMED,** S/o. Mohamed Zainulabideen, Residing at # 29, 2nd Cross, RBI Extension, 3rd Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560011, have changed my name to **MOHAMMED NAYAZ AHMED,** vide affidavit dated: 10.03.2022 before Notary **V. RAJASHEKHARA,** B'luru.

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TEAM *MARTIN* IN KASHMIR

Dhruva Sarja, along with director AP Arjun, heroine Vaibhavi Shandilya, will be shooting a 15-day schedule in Kashmir

CE FEATURES

ACTION Prince Dhruva Sarja, director AP Arjun, heroine Vaibhavi Shandilya and team *Martin* are currently shooting in Kashmir at a freezing temperature of 7 degrees.

The director, who shared a few pics from the sets, said the team is shooting bike chase sequences and a few romantic scenes in a 15-day schedule in Kashmir. "We have used snow bikes for the chase sequences, which alone cost the producer up to ₹1.5 crores," says the director, who mentioned that they will be shooting for 7 more days in the valley before they head back to the city. Incidentally, during the shoot, they got an invite from the army people, with whom they enjoyed spending quality time.

The team is now left with 30 per cent of shooting, and is planning to complete the film by the end of April.

Martin, backed by producer Uday K Mehta, marks the second collaboration of AP Arjun and Dhruva Sarja after Addhuri. With cinematography by Satya Hegde, and music by Mani Sharma, the film also stars Sukrutha Wagle and Anveshi Jain.

The makers have already sold the audio rights to Lahari music.

Martin, which is made in Kannada, will be dubbed in Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, and Hindi. The details about the rest of the cast of this pan-Indian film will be made soon.

Dhruva Sarja, AP Arjun & Vaibhavi Shandilya

Avatara Purusha gets new release date

CE FEATURES

SHARAN'S *Avatara Purusha*, directed by Suni, was delayed due to the pandemic, and to avoid clashing with the release of big pan-India films. Accordingly, the first part of the two-part commercial entertainer, titled *Ashtadigbandhana Mandalaka*, will hit the theatres on May 6.

Avatara Purusha, backed by producer Pushkar Mallikarjunaiah, has an ensemble cast featuring Ashika Ranganath in the female lead. The film, with music by Arun Janya and camerawork by William David, also stars Sai Kumar, Srinagar Kitty, Balaji Manohar, Sudharani, Bhavya, and Sadhu Kokila playing pivotal roles.

The first part will highlight Sharan's popular character. The second part, with the tagline '*Trishanku*', explores magical elements.

Rashmika Mandanna

Rashmika in talks for a special song in *Animal*

CE FEATURES

ARJUN Reddy fame Sandeep Reddy Vanga is gearing up for his next Bollywood big film *Animal* starring Ranbir Kapoor in the lead role. Now, speculations suggest that Rashmika Mandanna is in talks to appear in a special song in this film. The speculations have added to the anticipation surrounding the film.

According to IANS, if the sources are to be believed, the special song will grab much attention for the actor who became popular up north with her role in Pushpa: The Rise. There has been no official confirmation as of now regarding the appearance.

Rashmika Mandanna was last seen in the movie *Aadavallu Meeku Johaarlu* alongside *Sharwanand*. Apart from a couple of big-ticket movies in Bollywood including *Mission Majnu*, Rashmika will be seen in the *Pushpa* sequel *Pushpa: The Rule*.

Priya Anand

'APPU WILL ALWAYS REMAIN WITH US'

...says Priya Anand, who feels lucky to have worked with Puneeth Rajkumar in *Raajakumara* and *James*, shares her experience of working with the Power Star

A SHARADHAA

THE first thing Priya Anand recalls about the late Puneeth Rajkumar is his smile. "I am still not able to get over his 'Smiling' face," says Priya, who is starring opposite Puneeth in the upcoming film, *James*. Priya shares that she often told Appu that they don't make men like him anymore. "I have had the honour of meeting and knowing a person like him in my life. Forget the stardom, and the lineage, he is just an amazing person. Every time I think of Appu, I only see his smile, which would always come from the heart. And, when he smiles, you can't help but return the smile. It is something that will be treasured amongst his fans," says Priya.

Priya reveals that it was a common friend who informed her about Appu's condition. "The person knew that I would not take the news very well, and just mentioned that he had gone to the hospital. But nothing prepares you for things like this. It came as a shock to all of us," says Priya, who added that she has still not accepted his passing. "I still think he is with us, and his fans or I don't want to believe that he is no more with us. The goodness he's done will always keep him alive," she says.

Priya says that she did not really expect that she would get one other opportunity to work with Puneeth after Raajakumara. "*Raajakumara* was a huge hit, which gave me a bang entry in Kannada. To be honest, I think I got spoilt with that film. I had Appu teaching me my first Kannada words. He introduced me to Kannada cuisine. I believe that there are some things written in the stars, and I couldn't have planned my debut in any other way. I joined *James* almost at the last minute, and I'm glad we got to work with each other again. Even while working, I kept mentioning to my director Chethan Kumar that *James* will be magical," says Priya.

A still from *James*

I have had the honour of meeting and knowing a person like him in my life

Priya Anand, actor

The actor who shares her experience of working for the film, says she loved watching Appu's performance. "Chethan, who is a writer, was very good with his dialogues. I loved watching those mass punch lines. I'm sure the audience will have a treat watching Puneeth's presence on the silver screen. It is literally a perfect film for Appu fans," she says.

What is her role in a largely hero-centric film like *James*? "I love the cute little relationship that Appu and I have in the film, and how it develops. I love masala films, and that is entertainment to me, and everything of it will be seen in *James*. To be watching it in theatres, the first day, and with these crazy circumstances, it is going to be an emotional ride to the audience. With Puneeth starring in *James*, irrespective of the length of our roles, all actors would be grateful sharing screenspace with him. All those days of shooting, and the conversations we have had will be treasured for a lifetime," she says.

"Appu was a man of so many interests, who was willing to share his thoughts and experience. He never once pretended for a moment. He was always genuine," says Priya, adding that the biggest takeaway from *James* is that she got to spend a year with Puneeth. "Appu is around and will always remain so," she signs off.

MATCH POINT

HARISHAA VAYASSU 36

Cast: Yogish Shetty, Shwetha Arehole, Rohini Jagaram, Prakash Thumminad

Director: Gururaj Jyeshta

RATING 3/5

A SHARADHAA

AT the outset, director Gururaj Jyesta's film, *Harishaa Vayassu 36*, might be a light-hearted film, however, the central topic that talks about the social status of a man makes it quite an insightful film.

Harishaa Vayassu 36 revolves around Harishaa (Yogish Shetty), a small-time real estate broker, who is unmarried and is a diabetic. The title song sung by Puneeth Rajkumar explains the protagonist's predicament well. Harishaa lives with his aged father (Umesh), who has hearing problems. Although Harishaa has a lot of things going against him, he still doesn't give up on finding a match for himself. Will he succeed in his attempts of finding a life partner? The trouble and the desperation he goes through in finding a girl is brought out with subtle humour, and adds in the right dose of emotions by highlighting the father-son relationship.

Gururaj has made this film by observing the lives of such people with whom he is closely related. The film, made on a shoestring budget, is set on the coastal belt, and the language used is the Mangalore Kannada dialect. However, the subject matter is universal.

We have seen such a film previously with Raj B Shetty's *Ondu Motteya Kathe*. However, in the case of Harishaa, one can't sympathise with his situation, because he borders on over-confidence. Although Gururaj has taken up a simple yet sensitive topic, which is realistic and relatable, the film is burdened by slow-moving and repetitive scenes.

As the lead, Yogish Shetty both looks and performs the part. The scenes between him and senior actor Umesh are captivating, and good support comes from other actors like Rakshan, Chethan, and Prakash Thumminad. Another good thing about the film is the showcase of the bride's perspective.

Harishaa Vayassu 36 might not appeal to all but the good intentions definitely make it an engaging watch.

Geena Davis to headline mother-son legal drama

CE FEATURES

ACTOR Geena Davis is all set to headline a yet-untitled mother-son legal drama.

The series hails from writer and executive producer Scott Prendergast.

The story follows a talented but directionless private investigator agrees to work as the in-house investigator for his overbearing mother (Davis), a successful attorney reeling from the recent dissolution of her marriage.

Davis will play Joan, a razor-sharp attorney who puta herself through law school to support her children after her first husband died. Very controlling and always aware of appearances, Joan must rely on Todd, her least reliable child, when her 2nd marriage mysteriously unravels. And while she can't condone Todd's less than legal tactics, she's impressed by his ability to sleuth out information. Is hiring Todd to work in her office a serious gamble?

The pilot is executive produced by Dr Phil McGraw, Jay McGraw, and Julia Eisenman for Stage 29 Productions. The drama is produced by CBS Studios. Davis is known for titles like *Family Ties, Commander and Chief, Coma, Grey's Anatomy* and *GLOW*.